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木曜日のバニラ
To BE… 全2巻

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Mc MARGARET COMICS 別冊マーガレット

To BE… 2

桜山かずみ
SAKURAYAMA KAZUMI

別冊マーガレット MARGARET COMICS

To BE… 2

桜山かずみ

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集英社

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MARGARET COMICS

To Be...

2

桜山かずみ

HIKARI AND FRIENDS GRADUATE FROM BEAUTY SCHOOL AND TAKE THEIR FIRST STEPS AS BEAUTICIANS. THINGS HAVE CHANGED FROM WHEN THEY WERE STUDENTS. HOWEVER, AND HER RELATIONSHIP WITH DAISUKE STARTS TO EXPERIENCE SOME STRAIN.

VOLUME 2 OF THIS POPULAR MANGA THAT RAN IN BESSATSU MARGARET. PRINTED HERE ALONG WITH TWO COMPLETE SHORT STORIES.

Includes
*To Be... 2
*Powder Snow
*Sleeping Beauty and the Castle of Garbage.

Author's Comments

"I'M TALL. SHORT PEOPLE ENVY ME, BUT TALL PEOPLE HAVE LOTS OF PROBLEMS. TROUSER LEGS ARE TOO SHORT SO I GAVE UP BUYING THEM, I BUMP MY HEAD ON THE HANDRAILS IN TRAINS... IT'S REALLY QUITE PATHETIC.

IT MIGHT SOUND PARADOXICAL, BUT SHORT PEOPLE AND TALL PEOPLE HAVE THE SAME SORTS OF PROBLEMS! IS WHAT I REALIZED RECENTLY SO I CAN EMPATHIZE WITH THE PROBLEMS OF SHORT PEOPLE. I GUESS IT'S BETTER TO BE AVERAGE IN ALL THINGS? I REALLY ENVY MEDIUM-HEIGHT PEOPLE."
(SAKURAYAMA KAZUMI)

4045◆
集英社

MARGARET COMICS

To BE…

To BE…

②

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MARGARET COMICS

東京　一ノ橋　集英社

TO BE...
トゥビー
②
SAKURAYAMA KAZUMI

♣ TO BE... CONTENTS ♣

♡ TO BE... AFTERWARDS STEP 1..... (3)

♡ TO BE... AFTERWARDS STEP 2.....(55)

♡ POWDER SNOW .....(103)

♡SLEEPING BEAUTY AND THE CASTLE OF GARBAGE...(155)

For more details, read "To Be Volume 1" On sale now!
♥

<<THE STORY SO FAR>>

Hikari moved from Fukuoka to Tokyo to become a beautician. Apart from having to deal with beauty school every day, her high school sweetheart who was attending prep school slowly drifted away from her and they broke up.

In the midst of Hikari's depression, her classmate Shiga encouraged her and helped her get back her drive. Afterwards, when Shiga clashed with his profits obsessed father and later dropped out of a contest, Hikari decided she couldn't just look on quietly and encouraged him by showing him how hard she was working.

After going through these trials, Hikari and Shiga start dating after graduating from Beauty School. Now Hikari is finally on her way to becoming the beautician she always wanted to be. Work and romance... the story of Hikari's youth begins now!!

その後のSTEP1
TO BE…
トゥビー
桜山かずみ
さくらやま

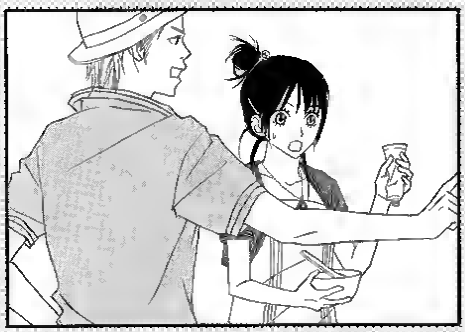
Dear Mom.
I won't be able to come home this summer, but...
Hello!
How's everyone?
I'm doing fine...
As an apprentice beautician.
Welcome!

Right now...

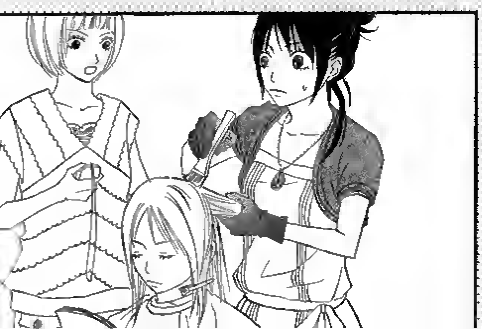
I'm allowed to do shampoos, and to help with coloring...

I make mistakes...

I get yelled at by my seniors...



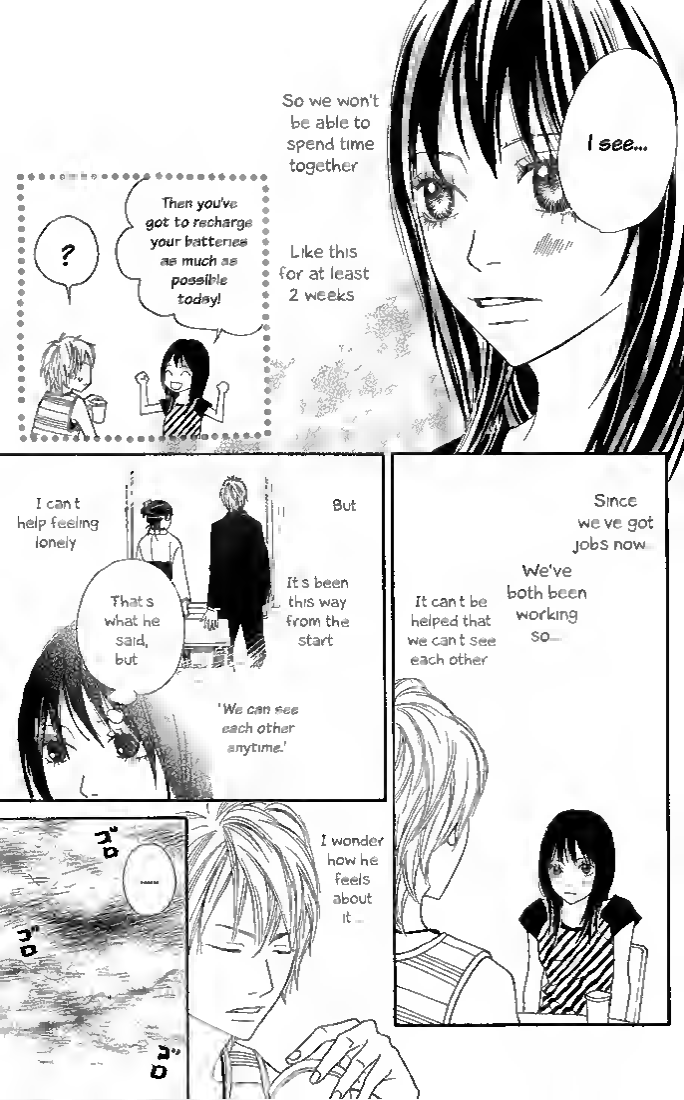
I have to stay and practise after the salon closes...



It's harder than I'd imagined, but...
THE TRAIN TO SHIBUYA
THE LAST TRAIN WILL NOW DEPART
2 東急東横線 Kyuukou Toyoko Line
最終 LOCAL 渋谷行
プルルルル
Wait for me, last tram!!
Ah...
ウゥゥゥゥ...
Phew, that was close!
And I've finally started to get the hang of it
It's been 5 months...
6

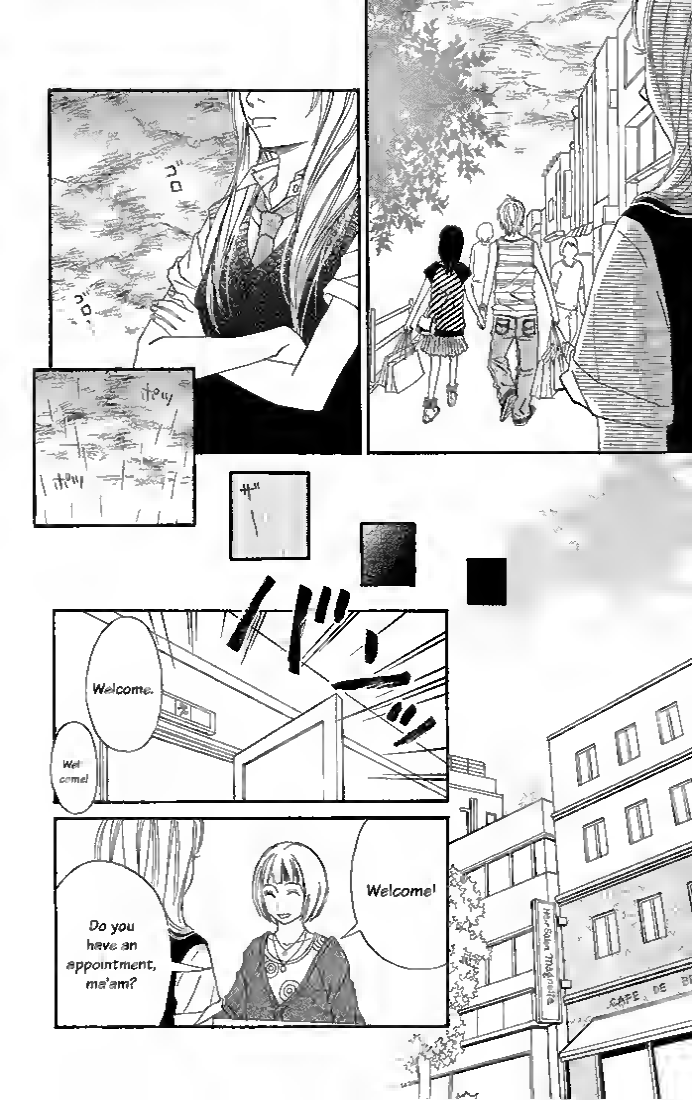
I've got the day off tomorrow. It's your day off too, right? Let's go shopping together
Alright!
Although sometimes I do feel tired or down....
There are a lot of things that make me happy.
I haven't seen him in 3 weeks.

We sure bought a lot of clothes!
In fact, I think we went overboard...
Hmm ..
It's fine, isn't it?
it's been a while since we got to take our time shopping together like this.
Yup
And you start learning to do hair extensions next week, right?
After that I'll have to go back to the salon to practise some more.
I need to find a model to practise colouring on too
Your salon just did a grand opening, yeah? I bet you're swamped with clients now


I see...
So we won't be able to spend time together
Like this for at least 2 weeks
Then you've got to recharge your batteries as much as possible today!
?
But
It's been this way from the start
That's what he said, but
I can't help feeling lonely
'We can see each other anytime.'
Since we've got jobs now
We've both been working so...
It can't be helped that we can't see each other
I wonder how he feels about it...
ドクン
ドクン
ドクン
...

Looks like it's going to rain...
Right, time to go!
ガタッ
Eh!?
He's leaving already!?
We haven't seen each other in so long...
I wanted to spend more time with him...
.....

We can eat lunch together at my place.
Why not?
Right?
Yeah!


Welcome.
Welcome!
Welcome!
Do you have an appointment, ma'am?
CAFE DE

This is my first time here.
What will it be today?
Coloring and a cut.
I want that girl to do it.
Umm, I'm very sorry ma'am, but...

Then let her do whatever she can!
She's not allowed to do such things yet.
She's just an assistant, so...
Hey, Hikari-chan.
Y...
Yes...
This way, please.
.....
Do you know that girl?
Huh?
See by the window
Why?
So weird.
This is the first time she's been here, but...
She asked specifically for you...
...No, I don't..

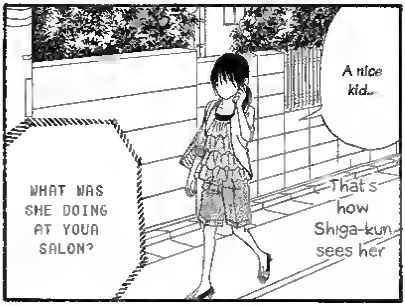
Mizuho Ishiyama
Doesn't sound familiar
Hmm Oh well
Hair Salon magn
Asked...
For me?
Yeah, well...
Give her super treatment She's your client after all
No matter what, she s my client
Hello, how do you do?
.....
I'm going to give you a light wash, so...
Let's move to the shampoo stands
.....
It's not too hot, is it?
Does it itch anywhere?

This girl...
.....
She's not saying a word
.....
I haven't seen that uniform around here before.
Which school is it from?
It's cute!
.....
Ah, but, even if you told me I wouldn't know.
I haven't even been in Tokyo for 3 years yet!
Ahaha
What's going on here...
Maybe she doesn't like to talk
Ahaha
I heard you asked for me...
But this is the first time you've been here, so...
But unless we communicate...
Umm, may I ask you something?

Have we met somewhere...
You're Daisuke's girlfriend, right?
Eh Daisuke?
Ah
I see. You know Shiga-kun
Break up with him.
Huh...?
Errr... What are you...
You're just annoying.
Hurry up and break up with Daisuke.
What is she
Talking about?
I will be going out with him.
I love Daisuke.

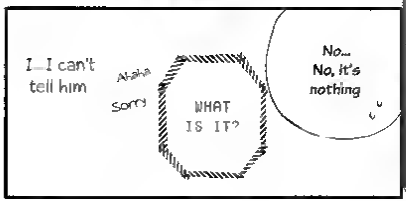
And he says he loves me more than you anyway.
Did you know that? Hikari Takaya.
.....
Shiga-kun...
Loves...
This girl...?
No way
"OOOU-UUUCH!"
!?
"What are you doing? Don't pull my hair."
Eh!?
AH

W-wait! Please wait! I wasn't...
I'm so sorry, ma'am.
I'll fetch another stylist right away
Takaya-san!
What's the matter, ma'am?
This girl is so rough!
I won't have any hair left at this rate!
Okay...
Come over here.


A nice kid...
That's how Shiga-kun sees her
WHAT WAS SHE DOING AT YOUR SALON?

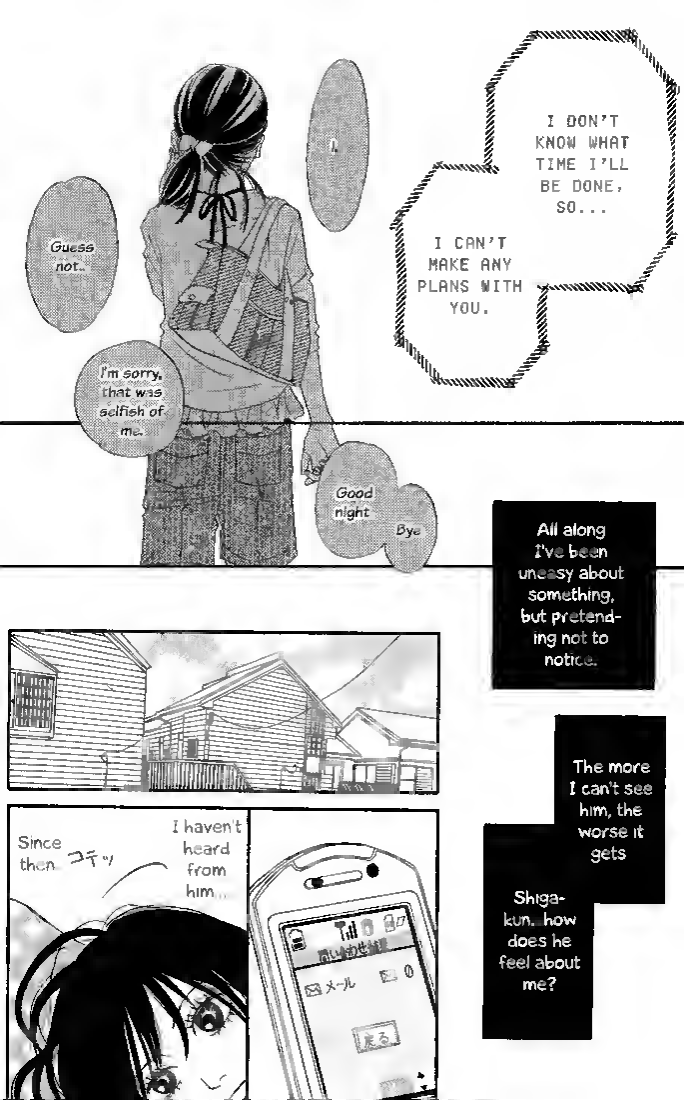
Harass-
ment...

"Hurry up and break up with Daisuke."
"You're annoying"
Umm ..... mmmm.....
Actually, she...

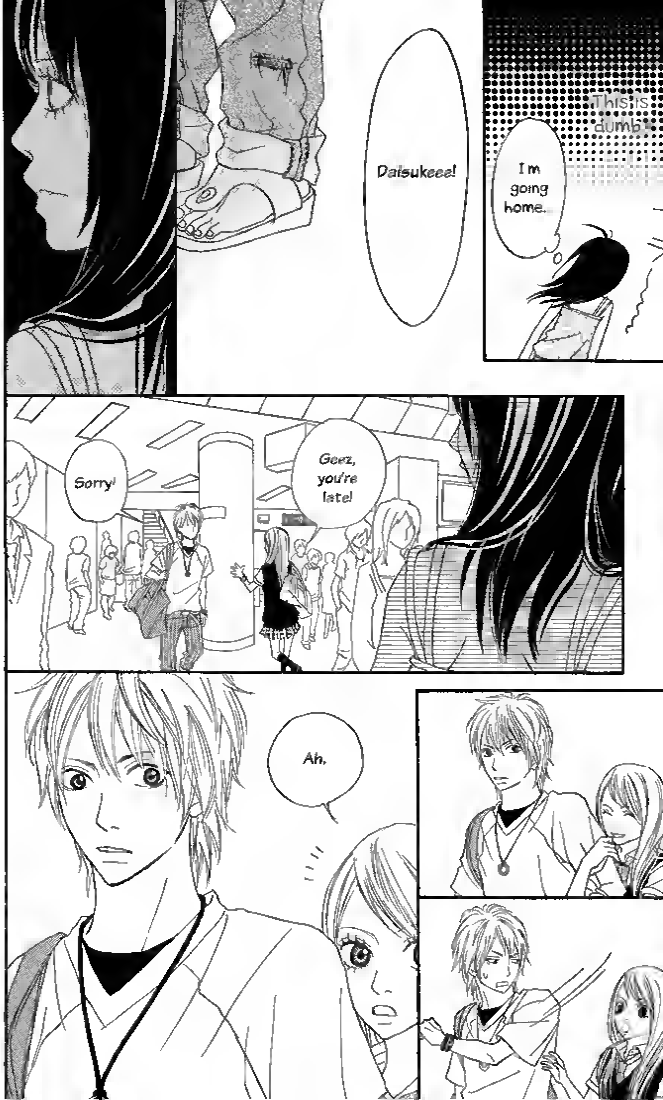

I... I can't tell him
Sorry
WHAT IS IT?
No... No, it's nothing

AH, THAT GIRL. SHE'S ONE OF OUR CLIENTS.
SHE'S REALLY FRIENDLY, A NICE KID.

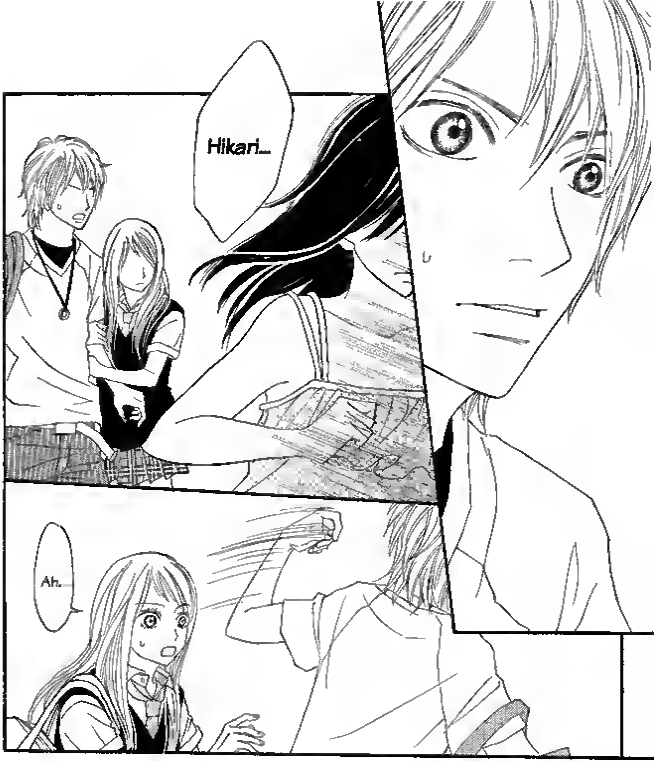
.....
He says he loves me."
But
There's no reason for me to believe anything she said anyway.
I'm sure Shiga-kun is fine
...Shiga-kun
HM?
On your next day off...
Can we get together? Just for a little bit...
SORRY, BUT...
Ah...
.....
.....
.....
I know you're busy. But even if it's just a few seconds between training and practice...
What now? Maybe I shouldn't have said anything


I DON'T KNOW WHAT TIME I'LL BE DONE, SO...
I CAN'T MAKE ANY PLANS WITH YOU.
Guess not...
I'm sorry, that was selfish of me.
Good night
Bye
All along I've been uneasy about something, but pretending not to notice.
The more I can't see him, the worse it gets
Shiga-kun... how does he feel about me?
Since then... コテッ
I haven't heard from him...
メール
見る

モヤ モヤ モヤ モヤ モヤ
.....
Shiga-kun must be learning to do extensions right now
This won't do!
I'll just get depressed if I lie about here all day
がばっ
Gotta go out
The salon where Shiga-kun works is in this station
Maybe...
I'll bump into him
Or some-thing
What am I doing?
Wait


I'm going home...
Daisukeee!
Sorry!
Geez, you're late!
Ah.

Hikari...
What...
ギュ
The two of us are going on a date now.
Hey
Get serious...


Hikari...
Ah...

Hikari!
Wait up!

Don't get the wrong idea!
She's just my practice model for coloring!
We're just going to the salon now, that's all...
I know that!
.....
It's not that...
I was doubting you or anything
Then why did you run off?

Why are you bringing something like that up now..
Shiga-kun, you've never once told me that you loved me...
I...
"Something like that"...?
Hikari...

I don't understand you!
What am I to you, Shiga-kun?
Do you really need me?!
Even though I trust you..
There's no way I could see that scene and not feel anything...!

I want to support him. I want to cheer him on
As a beautician I'm in more or less the same position as Shiga-kun
I feel so conflicted
I'm a horrible person
Of his work...
Maybe I'm just jealous
So why are things like this now?

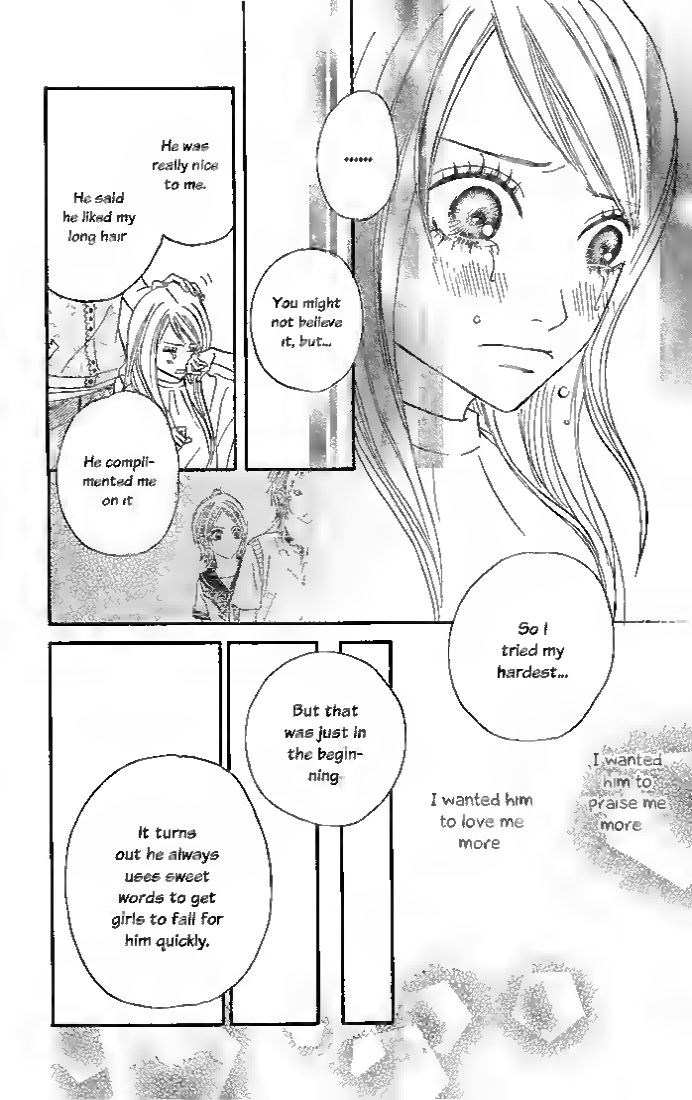
You're surprisingly cheerful, aren't you?
.....
Hmm
Please stop try!
We run a hair salon
Please take this.
You guys had a fight after that, didn't you?
Hey, Hikari. How old are you?
.....
Around 21, 22?
You've got nothing on a teenager, then.
Oh my! That's no way to speak to a client!
Here you go.
None of your business.

Kouji...
Huh?
What are you doing here?
Ko...
Guys like their girls young, you know.
You know, Daisuke...
Huh?
Isn't that Mizuho?
Hang on, Kouji. Who's she?
Ah, her?
I hope you're not still following me around.
No...

Just some girl I went out with when I had nothing better to do.
It's over now but she just won't quit
Please, don't follow me around any more.
You're creepy.
How cruel
.....
Mizuho-chan ..?!
.....

Hello...
Hello!
Please do my hair PROPERLY this time.
CAFE
.....
Say, Mizuho-chan...
Do you really love Shiga-kun?
Huh?
What are you getting at?
I already said I did, didn't I?

Aren't you really in love with that boy from yesterday?
Hehe.
What a stupid jo..
I don't know what you're talking about..
He was just playing with me...
And he dumped me long ago. Do you find it funny?
.....
..ke.
It pisses me off... Makes me want to hit him...
But he's still in your heart somewhere...
...
rub
rub


He was really nice to me.
He said he liked my long hair
He compli-mented me on it
.....
You might not believe it, but...
So I tried my hardest...
But that was just in the begin-ning
It turns out he always uses sweet words to get girls to fall for him quickly.
I wanted him to love me more
I wanted him to praise me more

"Uneasy, but pretending not to notice"
And even though I knew that...
I pretended not to know
I lied to myself
Until the end. Even now
I wasn't able to say anything
So he used me...
Just to amuse himself
I won't laugh.
I'm such an idiot.
Go ahead and laugh at me...

When you feel so strongly about someone...
It's only natural to become cowardly.
I understand all too well.
So I won't laugh.
Hikari...
There, there
It's okay.
I'm sorry.
I—
Say, Hikari.

I want to put my memories of him away.
Could you do me a favor?
Please cut my hair!
Eh...?
Please!
Please help me, Hikari...
This should do.
Why aren't we doing this at the salon?

Leave it to me!
Don't worry. I guarantee you'll like it!
Because I'm not allowed to cut hair yet
So today I'm doing it as a friend.
Eh? Really?
Will this be okay?
But still...
Daisuke said the same thing
It's a bit of a waste..
It's so long and pretty.
Are you sure about this?
Huh?

And the salon I went to happened to be where Daisuke works
I decided to cut my hair.
The truth is,
When he first dumped me, I was so upset...
Are you sure you want to cut it short?
Long hair really suits you. It would be such a waste.
Since you've managed to get it this long—
It means you've taken really good care of it, doesn't it?

Well done...
He noticed...
Shiga-kun said that...
Somehow that made me feel so relieved.
Akaka
In the end I decided it would be a waste to cut it and left.
Along with this hair...
I'm going to throw all my feelings for him away.
But it's okay now. Cut it all off.

Shiga-kun...
Moves people's hearts by doing their hair...
I admired that about him...
And that made me want to get closer to him...
So that the next time...
I want to help her...
That she opens her eyes...
She'll be able to laugh and move forward...
And she'll realize that the world is full of hope...

This time it's my turn...
Wow...
It's soooo short now!
And light too!
I was thinking about the guarana tea.
D...Do you like it...?
Yeah!
Than I'd imagined!
It's much, much better...
Thank you, Hikari!

You know...
Next time I fall in love, maybe I'll grow it out again.
Ah
Can i ask you one thing?
Ahh, that...
Umm... why were you picking on me earlier...!?
Well then...
So take care of me!
When that happens I'll come to your salon for treatment.

You just pissed me off, that's all.
Eeeeh!?
.....
"Happily"...?
I was envious.
And you were laughing so happily!
See..
You were on a date with Daisuke.
.....
There were so many times
Without him saying anything out loud..
That's right I was happy!
Whenever I was with Shiga-kun

When I knew exactly how he felt
Hikari!
Finally caught up...
Shiga-kun!?

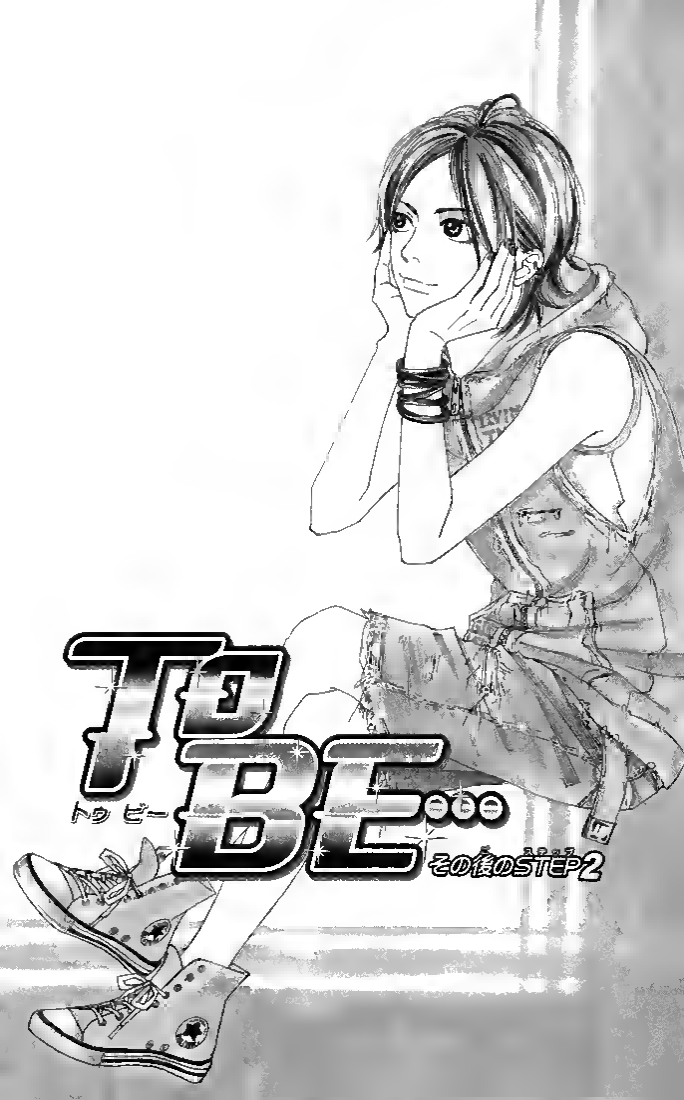
I'm sorry, but...
I'm not interested in anyone except Hikari.
Say it to me, not to her.
So if you have anything to say...
And...
I'm sorry, Hikari.
He got this sweaty...
...Yeah.
It's okay, you don't have to...
He ran all the way here...
I was too full of myself.
I thought you'd understand how I felt, without me having to say it.

I love you, Hikari.
He came all the way here
Just to tell me that
Just for my sake,
Yes.
Thank you, Shiga-kun.
I know you do
The truth is...

I really do love him
Shiga-kun, the beauti-cian
Instead of helping her out...
Maybe she's the one who helped me after all
Hello!
Come in...

I'm here to do my hair!
It's been ages! What brings you here?
Akari!
Mizuho -chan!
Eh? You mean...
Ehehe ♡
Hmmm...
So, so! What's he like? This guy you like.
He's a beautician...
He's about your age...
He's tall...
Huh...?
Ah, but he's got a girlfriend
And she's such a pain in the neck...
.....

He's as cool as Daisuke was when he came running after you.
You and I are rivals from now on, Hikari!
Ahaha
.....
All you've got is youth and nothing else. I won't lose to you!
Nuh-uh!
I'm young and cute, after all!
I'll definitely win!
《おわり》


TO BE…
トゥビー
その後のSTEP2

That kind of job is wonderful, don't you think?
And to become prettier myself in the process.
I want to make people pretty.
Pretty things
I like...
Shiny things.
What I'm doing now...
Is that kind of job.
She'll be working here from today...
As an assistant stylist...
Morikawa-san worked at another salon for a year before this..
So she's in her second year, just like Jou.
And so...
My name's Rumi Morikawa. Pleased to meet you!

Here! Here!
Jou.
Show her around, will you?
Okaaaaay!
Roger!!
Wah...
Wow wow wow...
I'm Shinichi Jou. Pleased to meet you.
キラ
キラ
キラ
He's shining!?
What to do...
He's so sparkly...
I'm... Pleased to...
To meet you.

First off...

I want to ask him if he's got a girlfriend!

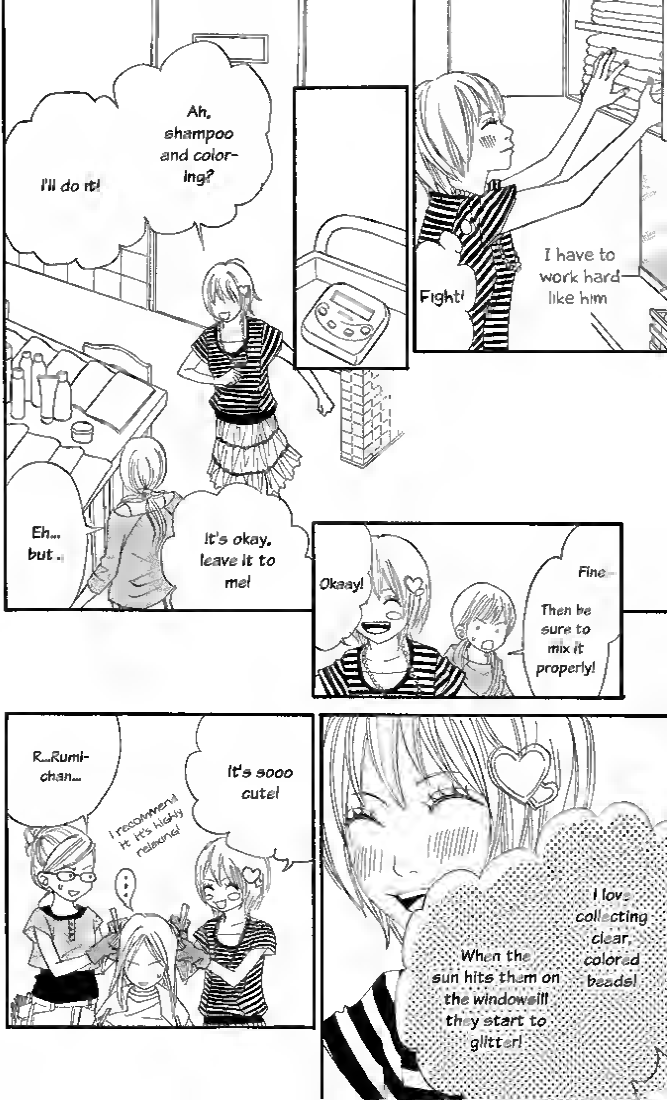
Ah.
...Huh? "Sure, sure"!? Come on!
Are you even listening?
I just got to work so I've gotta hang up.
Bye-bye!
パクッ
あーもう
Not only did I get hired at the salon of my dreams...
But now I've met the perfect guy... This must be...
Fate!?
Good moooorning!
Honey tea
Honey tea
♪

Ah.
Morning, Rumi!
You're early
Jou-kun
He's got a lovely smile
Jou-kun...
Do you always come early and clean the place?
Ah
I'll help you clean!
Thanks!

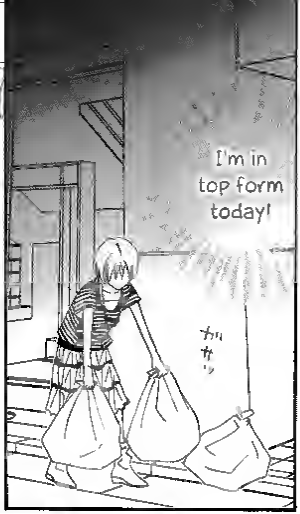
Not really, it's just that...
Yup. Whenever I have the morning shift
Is that the rule around here?
You know..
When the place is clean.
Not just the customers ..
But we workers feel much better, right?
I see.
You're right!
When the store is clean and pretty we're happier.
And that makes work much more fun!

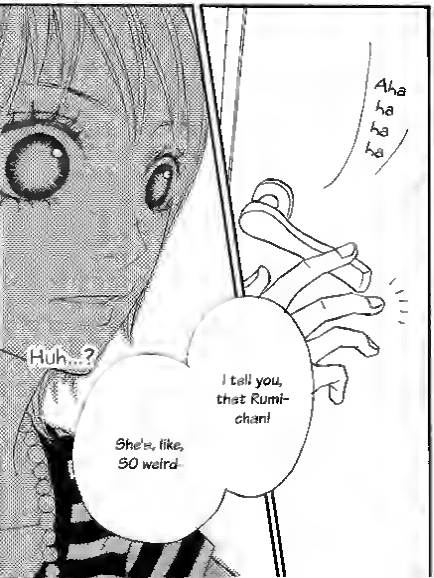
That glittery hair clip of yours...
I think it's soooo cute!
Actually I just can't resist pretty things!
Like stars and rhinestones and jewels...
Tee hee
Ah! I know what you mean. I love them too!
And Jou-kun ?
You must be really good at shopping!
Seriously!? Whoa!
Accessories are really cheap there.
I bought it in Harajuku for 300 yen!
Cute!?
Eh!? Really?
Alright!
Ah... That's reminds me...
All right. With pleasure!
Where you found such cute, cheap stuff!
Show me that place sometime.

Could you speak a little more casually?
I may have come here before you,
But we're both second years so...
Being formal feels weird.
.....
I mean...
.....
Yes...
Right, Rumi?
Please come in!
He's upbeat about work and he's always thinking about those around him.
He's wonderful
Jou-kun's so cool
Yup!


I'll do it!
Ah, shampoo and coloring?
Eh... but..
It's okay, leave it to me!
Fight!
I have to work hard like him
Okaay!
Fine
Then be sure to mix it properly!
R...Rumi-chan...
It's sooo cute!
I recommend it! It's highly relevant!
I love collecting clear, colored beads!
When the sun hits them on the windowsill they start to glitter!

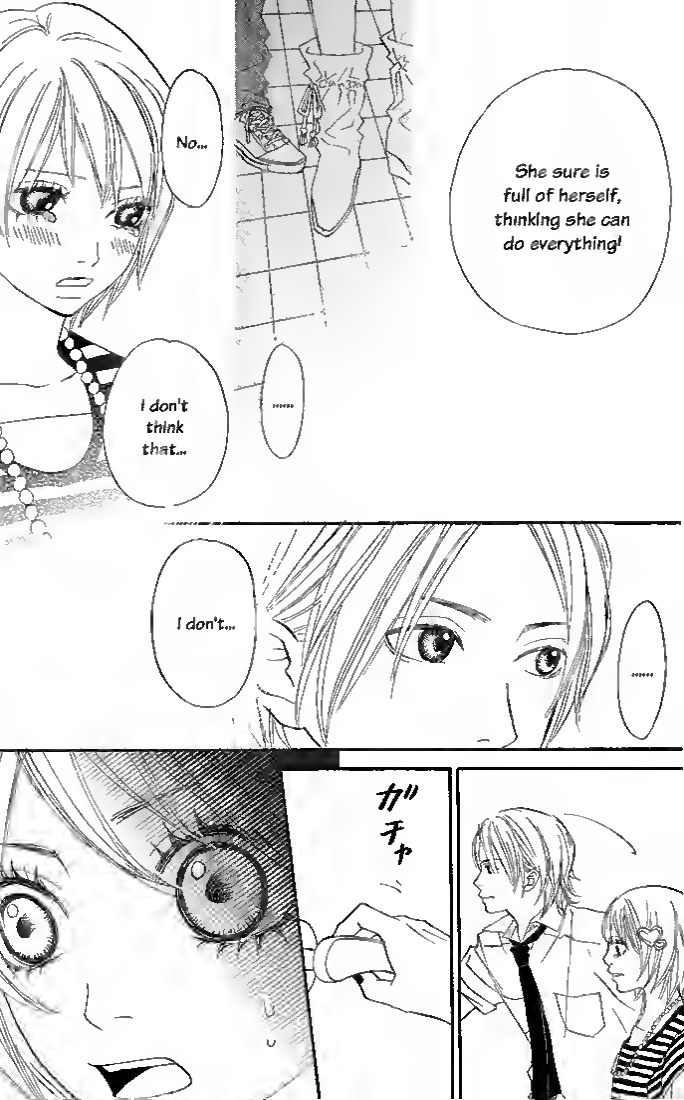
Are you leaving, Rumi?
Let's go home together!
Okay!


I'm in top form today!


Aha ha ha ha
Huh...?
I tell you, that Rumi-chan!
She's, like, SO weird

Gotta get my bag! ♪
I'm so happy to be working here~

We were working on a client and she just blurted out some totally irrelevant stuff!
Like, today...
She is pretty hard to deal with, I guess
I know, right?
She's totally off-beat!
Really? What's up with her?
Is she... special?
Whatever it is, she's always like "I'll do it! I'll do it!"
When it comes to work too...
What's wrong?
Rumi...
.....

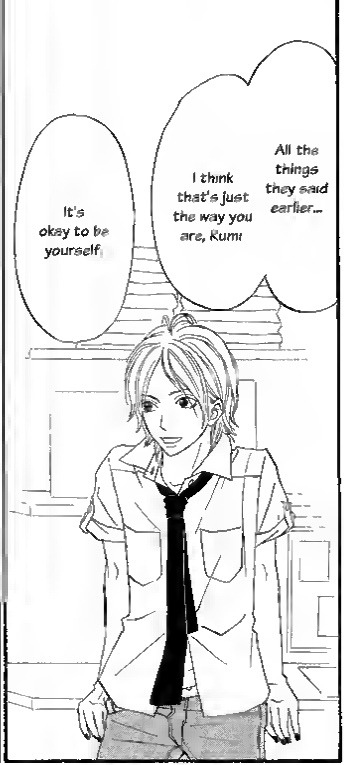

No...
I don't think that...
.....
She sure is full of herself, thinking she can do everything!
I don't...
.....
ガチャ

ガタ
ガタ
Ah! Look at the time! I've got a class at Aoyama!
I've got cutting practice!
Ah,ah,a me too
.....

ぐっ
パン
ドン
ドン
ドン
ドン
.....
That... was a bit of a shock.
Haha.
Ah...

If they want to talk...
Let them talk till they're satisfied.
.....
.....
Jou-kun, do you..
Agree with them?
I...
I know it..
I know you're working as hard as you can.

I think it's great!
I'm sure you'll find someone who understands you.

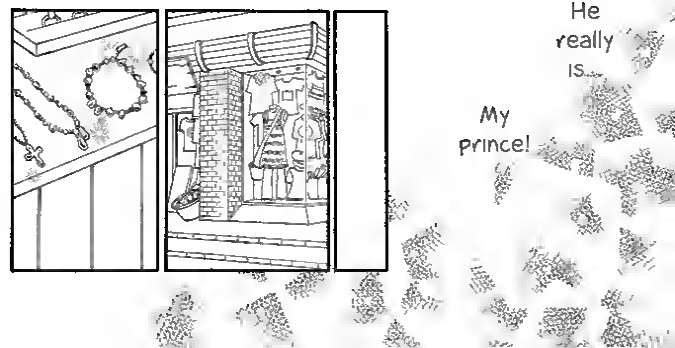

It's okay to be yourself.
I think that's just the way you are, Kumi
All the things they said earlier...

Asuka
Don't cry!

Ah, I know!
Tomorrow's our day off. How about we go shopping?

You can show me that store you were talking about!

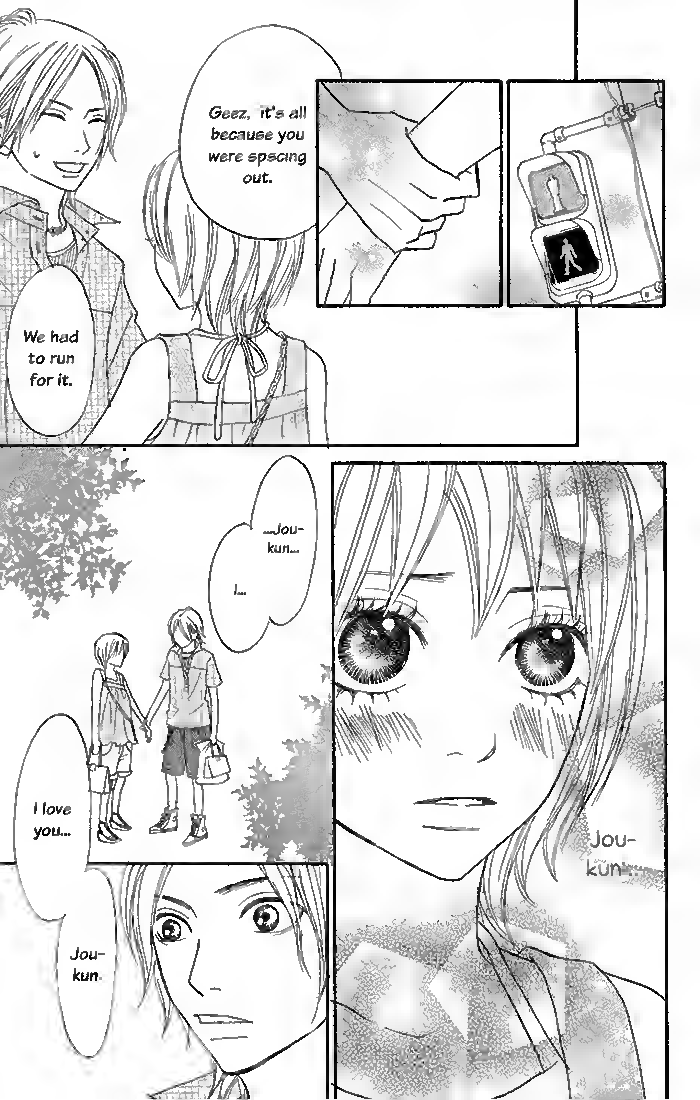
...Yeah.
That should cheer you up!
Right?
I'm so glad Jou-kun was there for me...
I'm so glad it was Jou-kun.


He really is...
My prince!

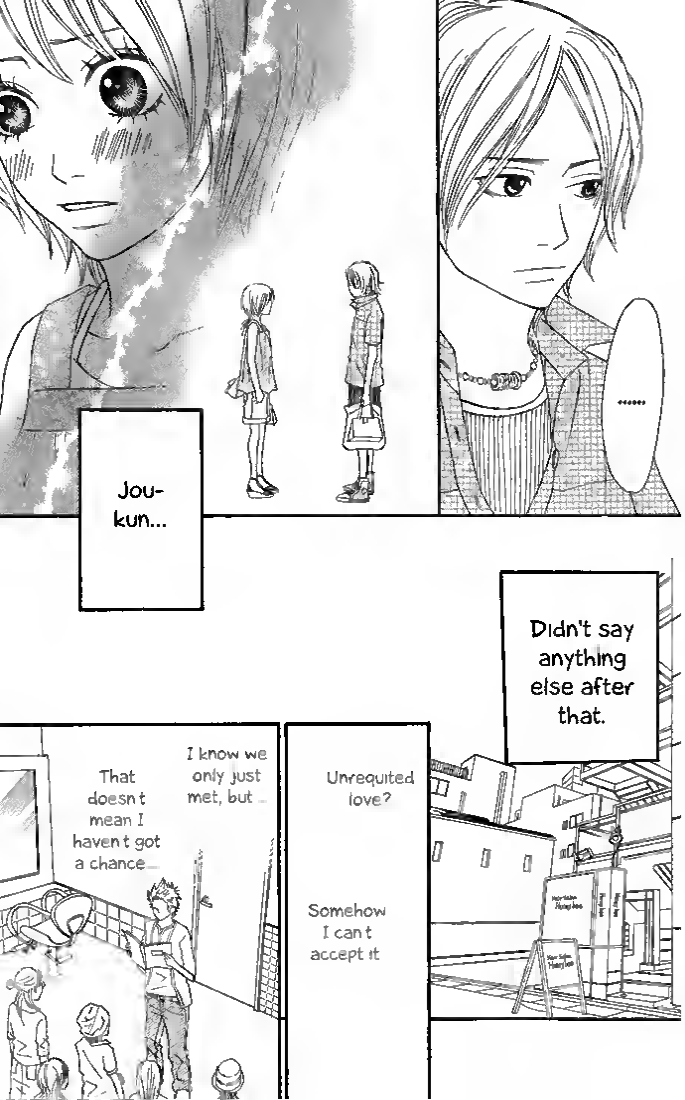
Looks good on you, Jou-kun!
You think?
Told you so!
This is only 500 yen? Too cheap!
Woooow!

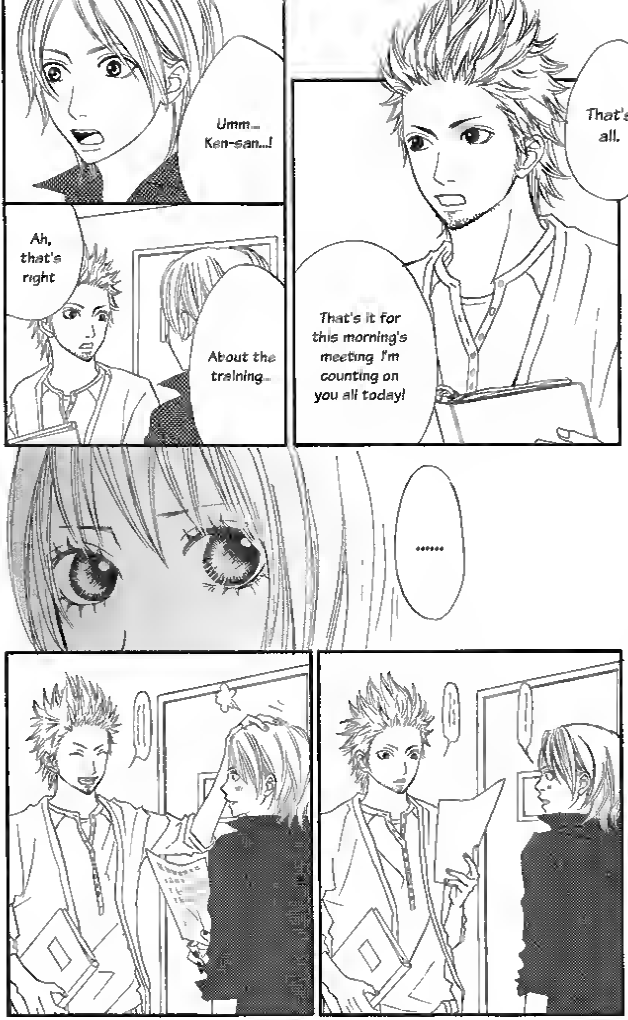
What a haul! And it's all thanks to you, Kumi!
Eheh
Glad you liked it!
This is like...
...

Waaah...
A d... date!?
Oh no... Suddenly I'm nervous!
It's a date, isn't it!?
Ah!
The light's changing.
Hurry, Rumi!

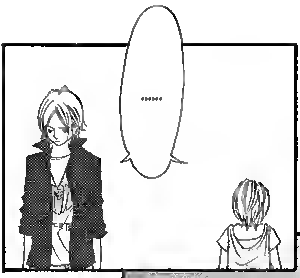

Geez, it's all because you were spacing out.
We had to run for it.
...Jou-kun...
I...
I love you...
Jou-kun.
Jou-kun...

I'm sorry.
Wh...Why not...!?
Bu-but, you might come to like me some day!
There's always that possibility...
See you that way.
I don't..


.....
Jou-kun...
Didn't say anything else after that.
I know we only just met, but ...
That doesn't mean I haven't got a chance...
Unrequited love?
Somehow I can't accept it


Umm... Ken-san...!
That's all.
Ah, that's right
About the training...
That's it for this morning's meeting. I'm counting on you all today!
.....

Huh...?
....?
Some-thing's .. odd here.
ガチャ
Ah...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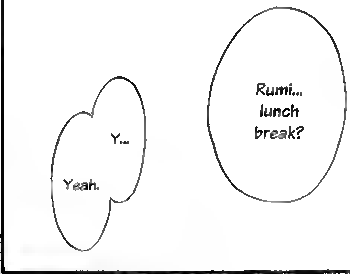
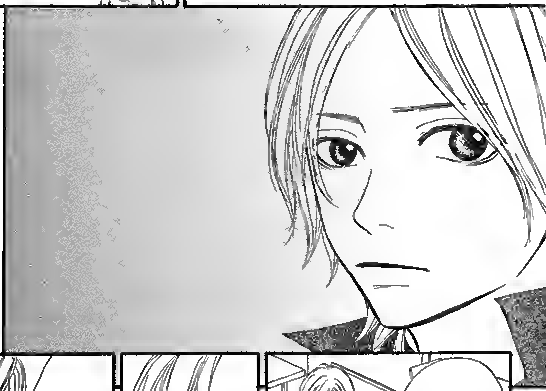
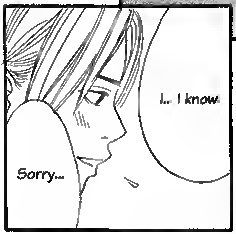

Rumi... lunch break?
Y...
Yeah.

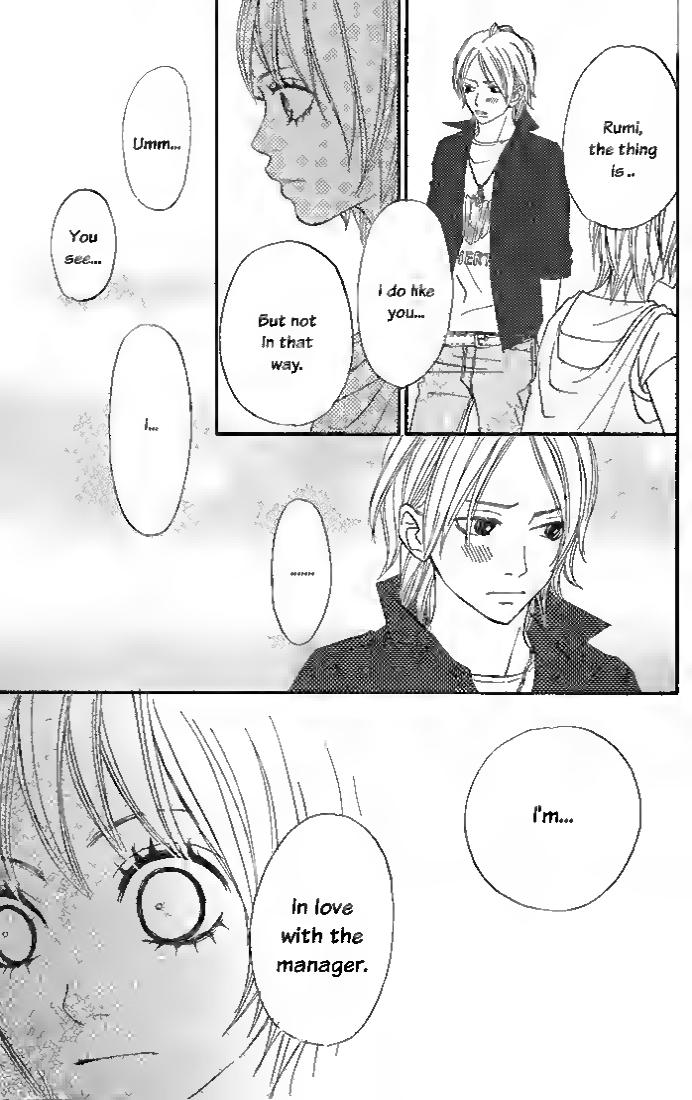



I... I know.
Sorry...

...
You don't have to apologize.

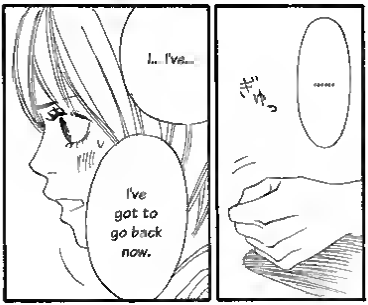
About the other day...
I'm sorry..

.....
Umm..


Rumi, the thing is ..
I do like you...
But not in that way.
You see...
Umm...
I...
.....
I'm...
in love with the manager.

Ken-san!?
Ke...
Ke...
The manager, you mean...
Eh!?
Th...
Ken-san is a ma... ma...
Man...
But...
W wait
H Hang on
Yes.
Then...
That's what I like.
That weird vibe...

.....
You're dis-gusted ...
Aren't you?
It's okay
I'm used to it now
Most people do back away
In middle school and in high school...
I could never make any friends because of that...
Even my parents didn't understand me.
That's why I couldn't decide whether to tell you or not.
I didn't went cause any strain at work.

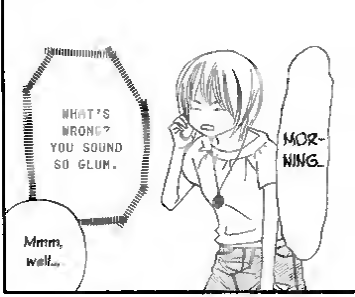


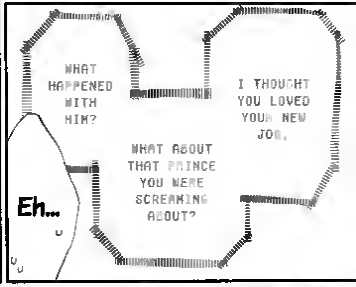
You're important to me, so..

I didn't want to keep hiding it from you...

.....
Come on...
I don't know what to do
What am I supposed to think?
How should I act at work today...?
Hello?
HELLO, RUMI?
Mamura

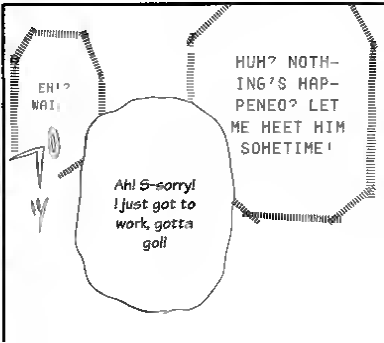
Aah...
"I'm in love with the manager."
"That's what I like."

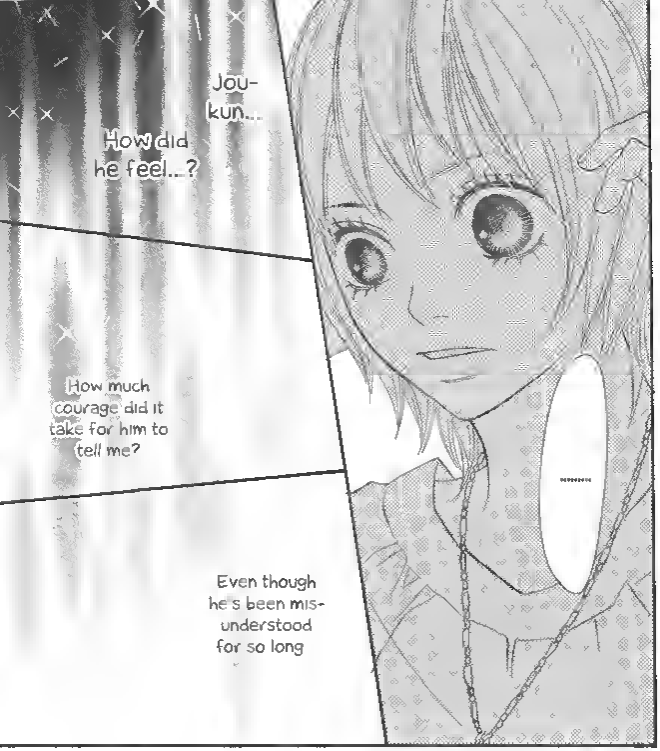

WHAT'S WRONG? YOU SOUND SO GLUM.
MORNING.
Mmm, well...


WHAT HAPPENED WITH HIM?
I THOUGHT YOU LOVED YOUR NEW JOB.
WHAT ABOUT THAT PRINCE YOU WERE SCREAMING ABOUT?
Eh...

Never!
I can't tell her!

I don't know what to say!


EH!? WAI
HUH? NOTHING'S HAPPENED? LET ME MEET HIM SOMETIME!
Ah! S-sorry! I just got to work, gotta go!!



He still manages to be so cheerful.

So much so that I fell in love with him.

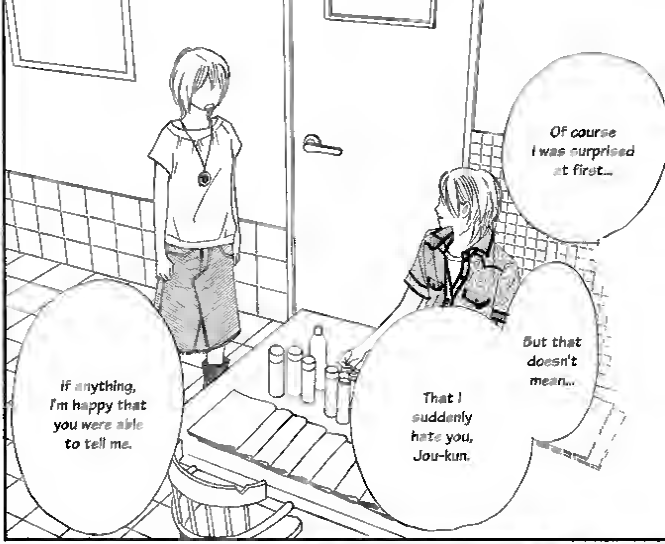
Jou-kun is...

Still Jou-kun...

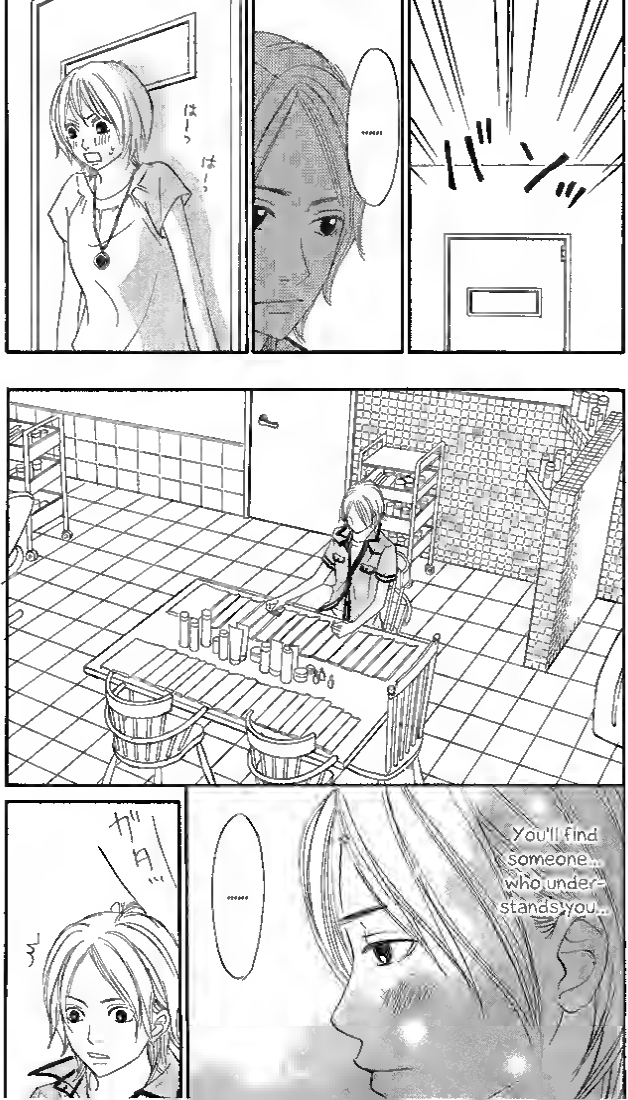
ガチャッ
Aaah
Enough
already!
There's
no point
worrying
about it!
Ru.
Rumi..
What's
wrong
with
you!?
When
you're down,
you bring the
whole place
down with
you!

.....
Sorry..
.....
Did something happen? Why so depressed?
.....
Most people can't accept it, can they?
I'm just... scared.
Someone like me..
I want to tell Ken-san how I feel, but ..
I'm sure if I came out to him..
He'd hate me...

I'm afraid of making things awkward...
You told me, didn't you?
That if I work my hardest...
I'll find someone that understands me...
The Jou-kun I love...
Is much more positive about work and about people than this!


Of course I was surprised at first...
But that doesn't mean...
That I suddenly hate you, Jou-kun.
If anything, I'm happy that you were able to tell me.

I'm sure Ken-san...
Will understand you if you keep on being yourself and working hard
Have confidence!


はーっ
はっ
……
ガタ…
……
You'll find someone... who under-stands you...

Ah...
Yes...
Oh!
Jou, still here?
Is... Is something wrong..?
What are you doing here?
Nah, just came back for something
Oh... nothing really...
.....
"Have confidence!"
Make sure you lock up properly!
.....
Umm...

Ken-san...!
Hm?
Umm...
I'm...
.....

I'm...
in love
with you,
Ken-san.

I know saying this out of the blue...
Might upset you...
But...
I can't keep working here knowing that I'm lying to myself
Maybe you won't want...
To work with me any more...
This is who I am, so...

Sorry.
I don't feel the same way about you.
And I have a girlfriend...

And I don't mind working with you.
In fact, I'm expecting more from you now...
I'm flattered that you like me.
I'm glad you're so honest.
But...

I love your skills, at any rate.
ポン
.....
Jou..
kun...?
カチャ

I have no regrets.
Thanks to you...
Thank you.
You're a great friend, Rumi!
Love you, Jou-kun.
I guess I still...
Ahhh...

As a close friend!
Was especially brilliant
Jou-kun's smile...
It was beautiful

Welcome!
Please have a seat.
Too bright!
Isn't...
Jou-kun kinda lively lately?
He's working really hard
And he's a nice kid
Yeah, and the clients really like him too.
You guys better suck up

Was shining.

Jou-kun's figure as he worked...

He really is...

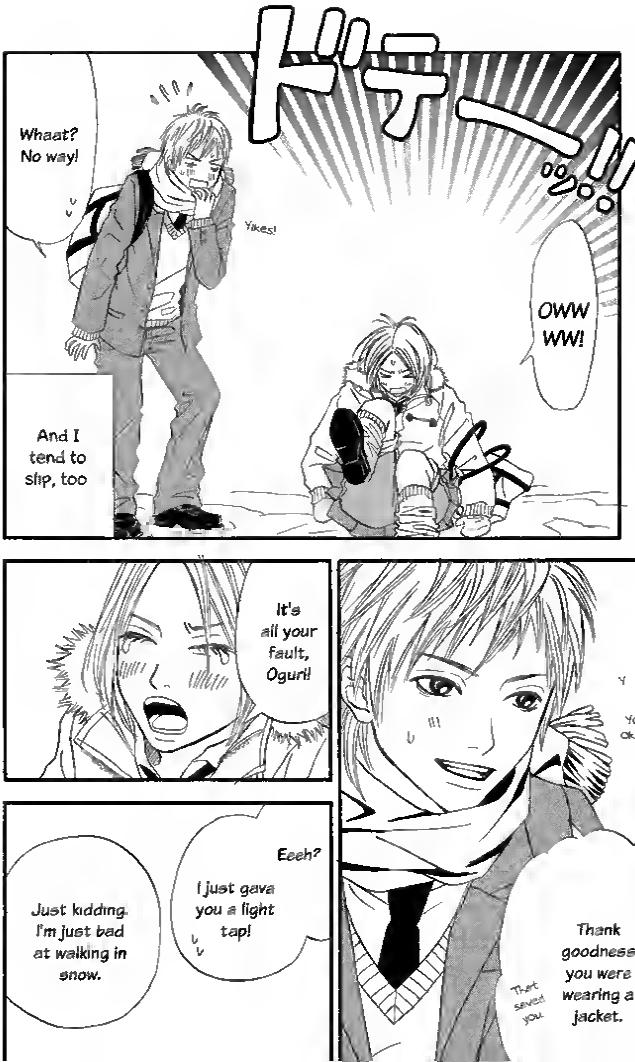
A prince.

<<The End>>

POWDER SNOW
They pile up without a word, like snow
Every day...
Every day
If only I could bury them all...
If only these feelings would vanish...
With the snow in spring.
I wish they would both melt and flow away...

粉雪
こなゆき
POWDER
SNOW

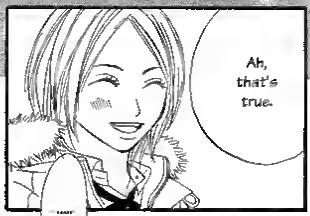
I hate snow!
It's so cold and hard to walk in
トン
Morning!
Asami!
!!
ずるっ

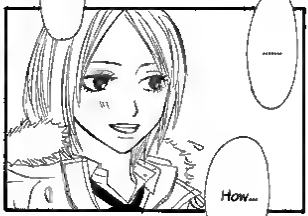

ドテーッ!!
Whaat? No way!
Yikes!
OWWWW!
And I tend to slip, too
It's all your fault, Oguri!
You okay?
Thank goodness you were wearing a jacket.
That saved you.
Eeeh?
I just gave you a light tap!
Just kidding. I'm just bad at walking in snow.

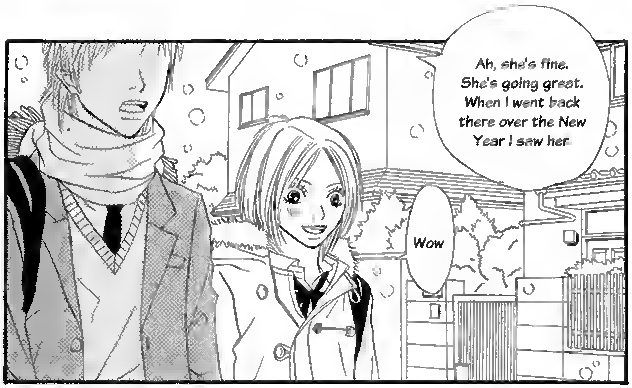
Come on.
Come to think of it, you do slip a lot.
Just like a little kid
Shut up!
Leave me alone
.....
?
What? If you don't get a move on your ass will freeze.
Thanks...
Aaaah

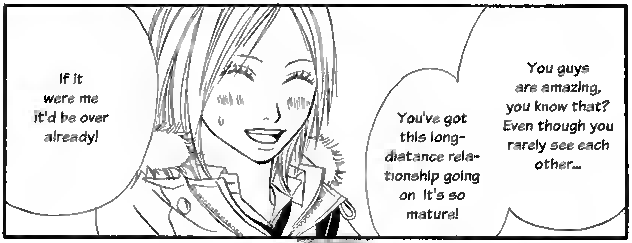
I wish

I didn't have these mittens on






Ah, she's fine. She's going great. When I went back there over the New Year I saw her.
Wow


If it were me it'd be over already!
You've got this long-distance relationship going on. It's so mature!
You guys are amazing, you know that? Even though you rarely see each other...

I wish
You sound like the old ladies in my neighborhood.
Now, now, don't be modest!
I hadn't asked
And those clothes don't help
Mature about it
There's nothing...

They're still together.
Oguri transferred to our school from Akita half a year ago
We got to talking
He sits across from me, so
The day I realized
That I was falling in love with him
I learned he had a girlfriend.
Whoa, what's that?
What is it?
I borrowed it from my brother. It looks pretty interesting.
Wanna watch it with me?
No thanks.
Not interested
Ah, OK
K-I fighting. She's like an old man or something.
Sen'oushi

HELLO! IT'S SAKURAYAMA KAZUMI!

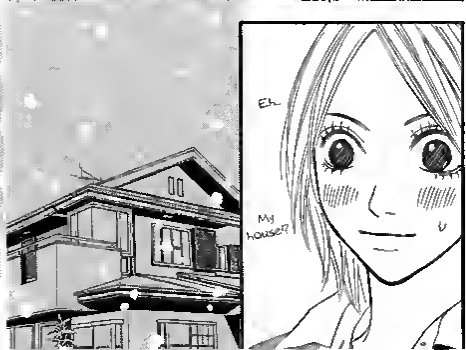
Thank you for reading Te Be volume 2. This is the first comic I've ever published with a number on it so I'm really excited... is what I want to say but even though it's called "Volume 2" it's really a collection of one-shots

That's my way of being kind(?) to those who haven't read volume 1 But I'd be happy if you read it too

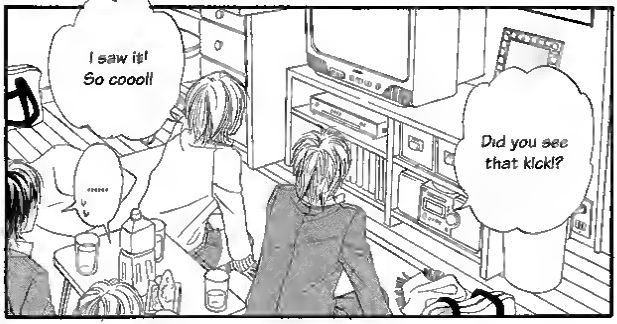
There are 4 stories in here but the last two were drawn a year to eighteen months before "Te Be." Time really flies, doesn't it? How nostalgic

By the way my favorite character in all the stories is Takai kun from "Powder Snow." I enjoy being able to create sub characters anyhow I like

What's that? I wanna watch it too!
Oh man, I really wanna watch this!
Then let's all go watch it at Asami's house!
If Takai's going then I'm going too!



OOOOOHHH!!
Oh!


I saw it! So coool!
Did you see that kick!?
*****

Well, I've got to go to work now, so..
Ah! If Taka's leaving then I'm going too!

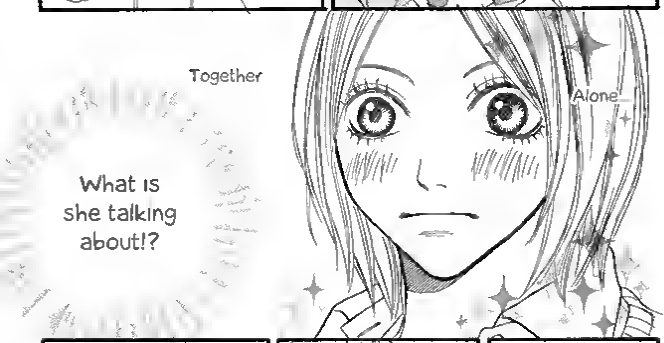
Yeah! Yeah!!
Wanna watch some?
He has?

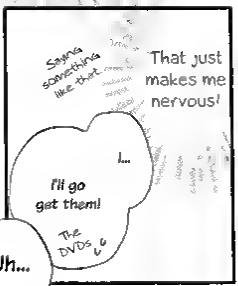
My brother's got even cooler DVDs in his room!

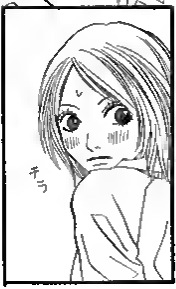
Huh!?
You get to be alone with Oguri! Lucky! ☆

Thanks for having us!
Huh? you're both leaving?

Takai want for me!
See you tomorrow!

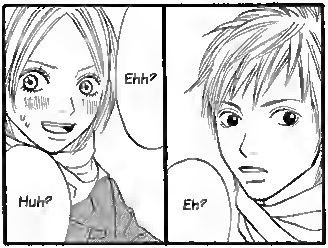

Together
Alone
What is she talking about!?

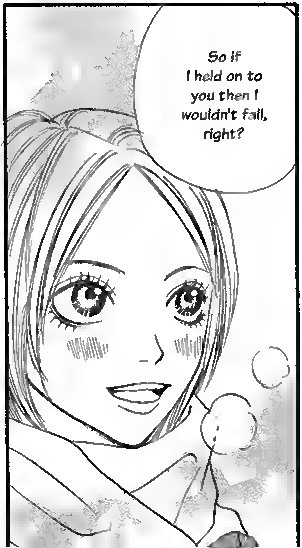

That just makes me nervous!
Saying something like that
I...
I'll go get them!
The DVDs
Uh...

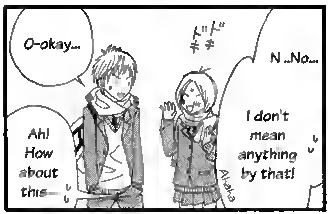


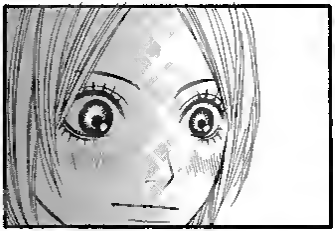
Ah...
Is that so...
What
Next time, okay?
It's okay... Sorry, but...
I've got work too.
Ogurı doesn't want to be alone with me
Okay.
I've got to return this DVD anyway
Then I'll see you to the station.
I see
I see.
Uwaah! It's really piled up!
It really come down today.
Oh no .. I just know I'm going to slip!
Aha ha ha.

By the way, you're used to walking in snow aren't you?
Yeah, you could say that.
I don't slip or anything


Ehh?
Huh?
Eh?

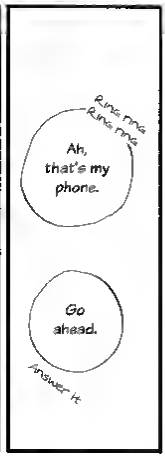

So if I hold on to you then I wouldn't fall, right?


O-okay...
Ah! How about this—
N..No...
I don't mean anything by that!



I guess there isn't one.
What's the point of that?
I'll walk in your footsteps!
A-ha-ha-ha

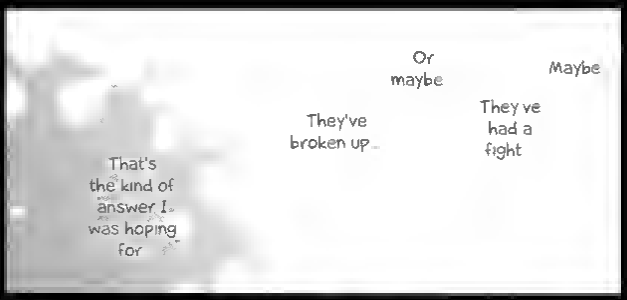
Huh? Right now I'm heading home from a friend's house.
Yeah.
Hello.


Ring ring ring ring
Ah, that's my phone.
Go ahead.
Answer it

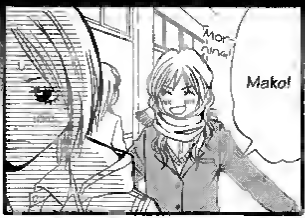
YOU KNOW ...
I
TOMOR-ROW
SO
Okay!
I'm sure that was...
Was small and cute.
The voice I heard faintly on the other side...
Okay, got it!
See ya!
.....
Oguri
Hm?

What's your girlfriend like?
Eh..? Why're you asking... Out of the blue like that...
Is she the cutesy type?
Or the elegant type?
Does she look like anyone...?
Look like anyone..
Not really...
She's pretty ordinary..
Ah!
ビッ
W-what!?
Here's the video store.
Gotta go!
Later, Oguri!
Huh?
ダッ

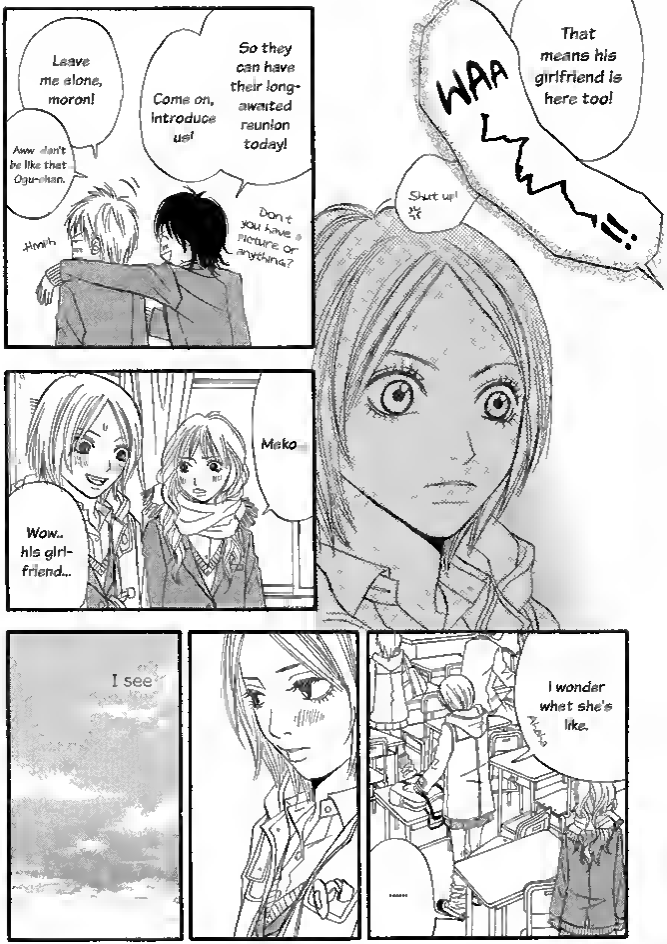
Come in!
She'll trip up she runs.
.....
!!?
!!?
!!?
But I couldn't help wondering.
Haaa...
I don't want to hear that!
Here to return something?
I'll take care of it.
.....
"Maybe..." I thought



I'm such a loser...



So how'd it go yesterday?
Anything happen?
Not a thing.
Eehh? You're lying!
Come on, 'fess up!
It's the truth.
You're so rude!
Eh!? Really!?
Everybody listen up!
ｶﾞﾀﾞ ｶﾞﾀﾞ
Takai! Don't!!
?
Ogu's classmates from his hometown are in Tokyo on a school trip!
Waah! Takai!
Know what that means?


Leave me alone, moron!
So they can have their long-awaited reunion today!
Come on, introduce us!
Aww don't be like that Ogu-chan.
Don't you have a picture or anything?
Hmph
That means his girlfriend is here too!
WAA
Shut up!
Meko
Wow.. his girl-friend...
I see
I wonder what she's like.
Ayaka
.....

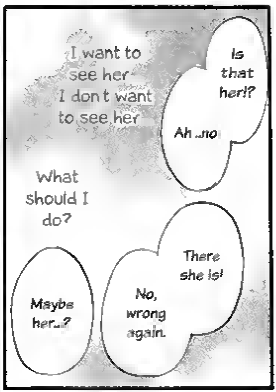
How will they talk to each other?
How will they look at each other?
So that's what yesterday's phone call was about
Not at all like—
How things are between him and me
だだだだだ
Asamiii!
H-hey Taka!?
Where are we going?
Waah!
What are you doing here? Let's go!
Duh, where else?

We really shouldn't be doing this
Let's just go...

We're going to spy!

Shhh!
Too late for that Just keep quiet
.....
.....

My heart's beating so fast...
Hey, she's here!


I want to see her I don't want to see her
Is that her!?
Ah ...no
What should I do?
There she is!
No, wrong again.
Maybe her...?

That was...

An Oguri I did not know, and his cute girlfriend.

There's no way...

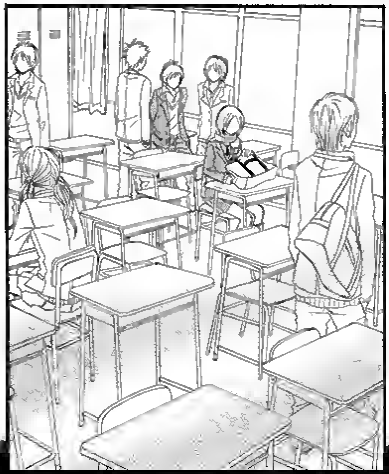
I could ever get between them.

Aah! You dummy! You'll get caught!

He'll see us!

.....
Asami...?
I wish I hadn't seen that!
I... I've...
I've gotta go!

It was so crowded!
Asuka



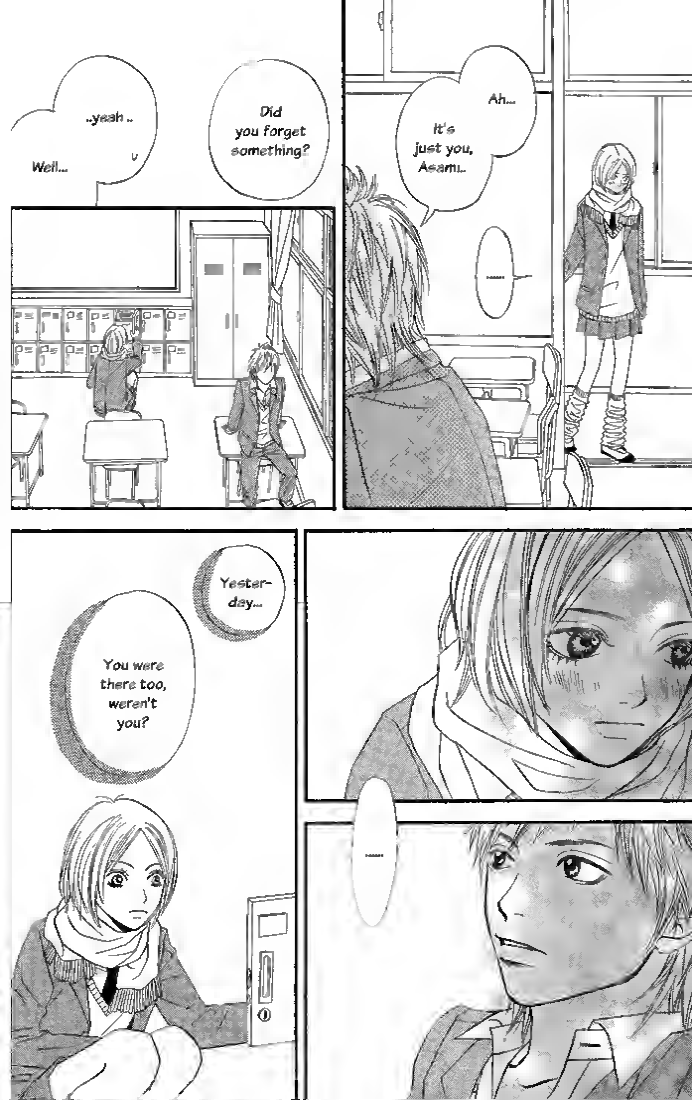
What I saw yesterday is still stuck in my head

I can't look at him.

What should I do?

I can't stop thinking about it
I've got an umbrella in my locker!
I'll go get it!
It sure is snowing this year.
Wah it's snowing again!

ハ°
ハ°
ハ°
カ
カタッ
!
……


Ah...
It's just you, Asami..
....
Did you forget something?
..yeah ..
Well...
Yesterday...
You were there too, weren't you?
....

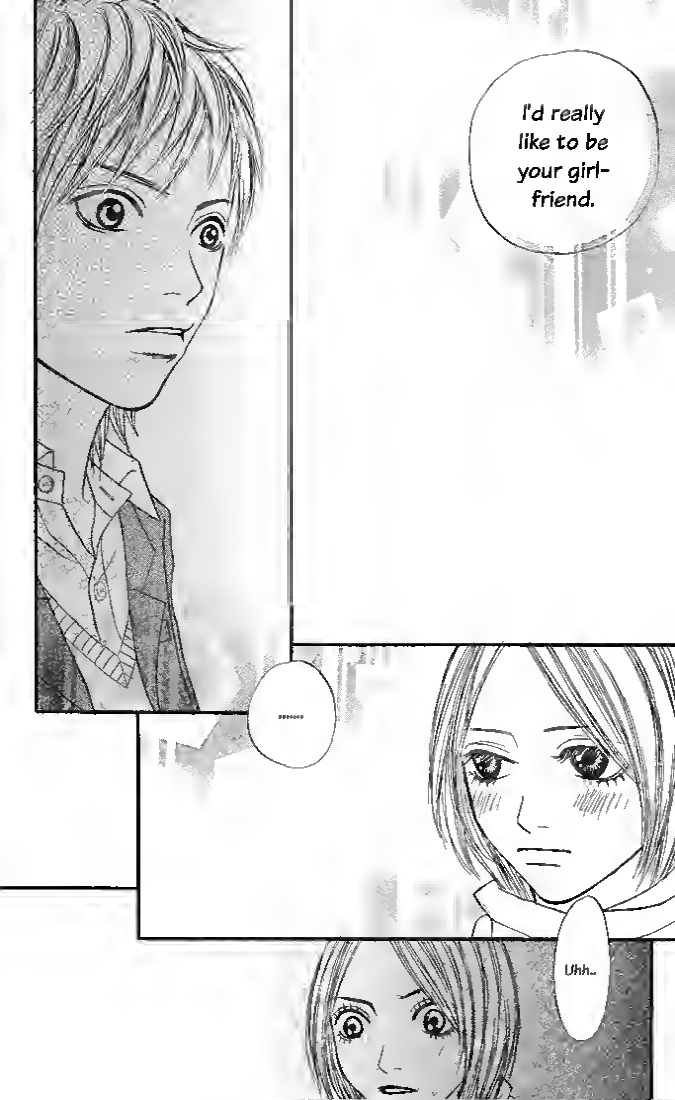
Yeah...
But I left right away
Takai told me about it
Eh...!?
.....
.....
So happy I got a little jealous...
haha
What am I saying?
Your girl-friend ..she's pretty cute, isn't she?
And you looked so happy

I'm so stupid
Just saying these words
Makes me want to cry
Well, later.
She's not my girlfriend.

Yesterday she called me out saying she had something to tell me.
Turns out she wanted to break up with me.
And Takai saw the whole thing. How uncool is that?
.....
We're not mature at all...
We're just high-school kids. The distance was too much for us.
And phone calls and e-mails can only take you so far...

I get that, but...
.....
Well.
See you later
Sorry to bore you...
With this depressing story
.....

Sorry
I'm really happy right now.
Because I love you.
So even though it's so sad...
I'm feeling really lucky
I'm sorry.
But...


I'd really like to be your girl-friend.
.....
Uhh..

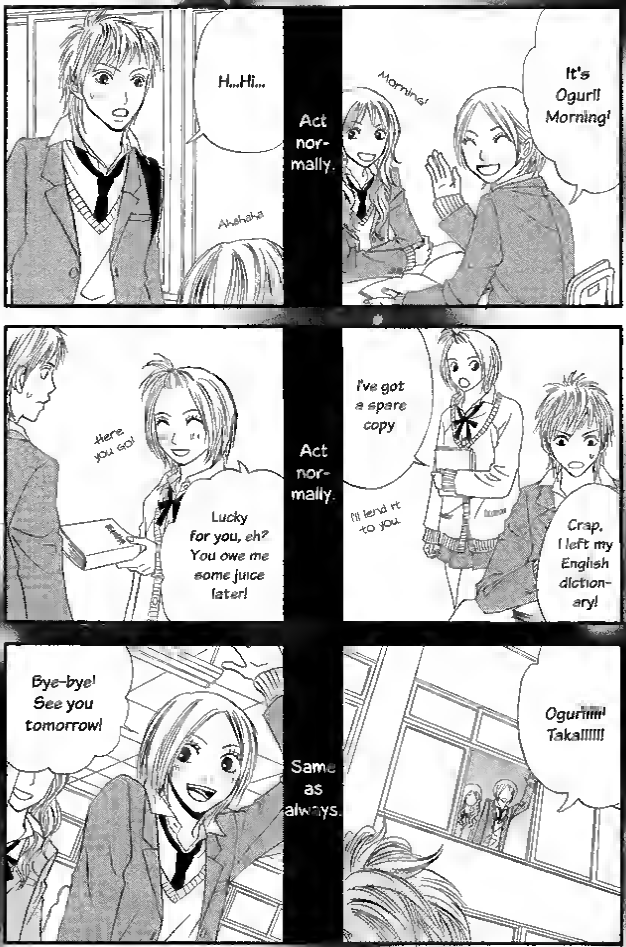
Um...
.....
...
Oguri
Right now, I'm...
Just kidding!
I'm bothering him!

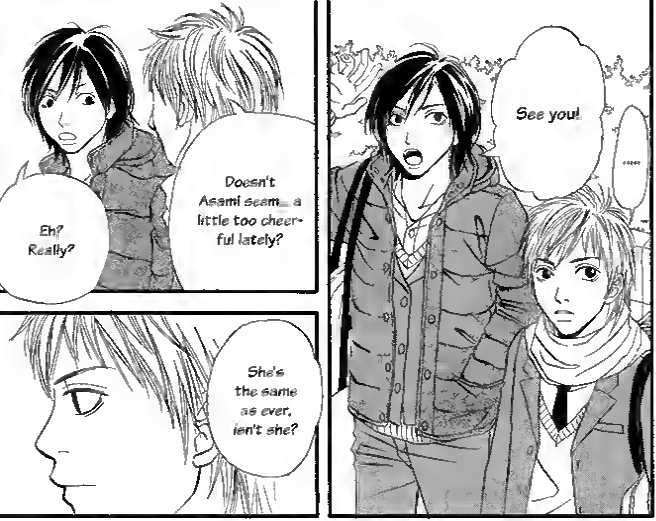
Huh!?
Ah ha ha.
It's a joke, a joke!
Did I scare you?
Why you..
Come onnn!
You looked so down, so..
I thought I'd cheer you up a bit.
It's not funny!
See ya!
Asami.
Ahaha, sorry
Asami..?
Well, gotta go now!
Yuu and the others are waiting!

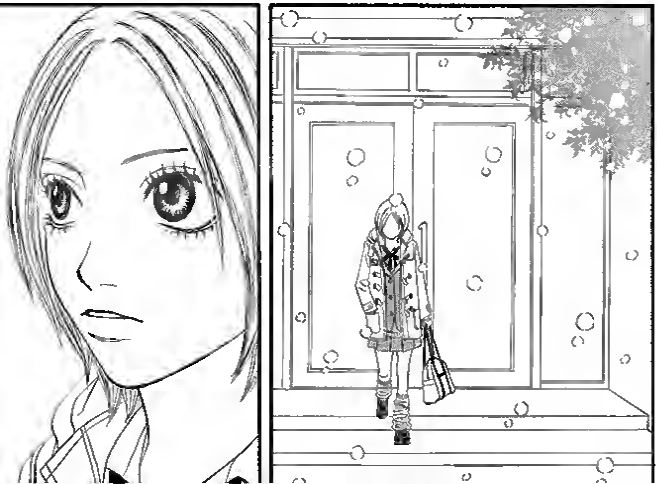
.....
Bye!

A huge failure
Here comes Mako!
Ah, yeah.
You took forever!
Did you find the umbre...
...ils...
I was just bothering him.
What's wrong!?
Eh!? Wait up, Mako!

To Oguri I'm just a friend
Nothing more nothing less
Whether he has a girlfriend or not doesn't change that
I'll never be his girlfriend.
Ah-ah-ah-ah-a!

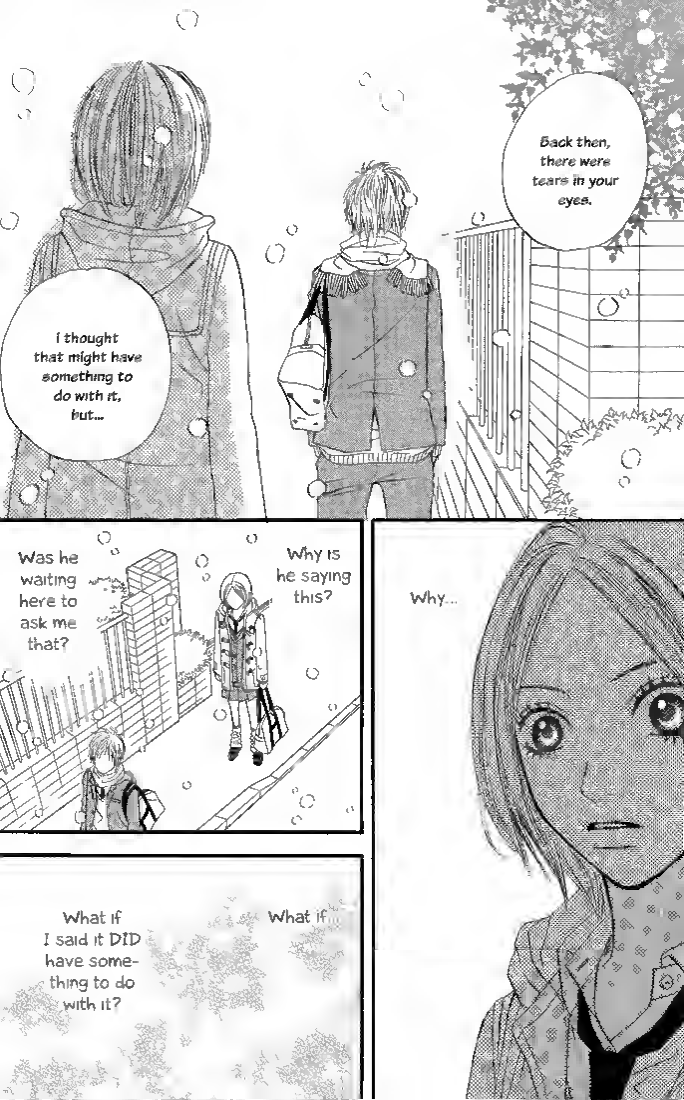

It's Oguri! Morning!
Morning!
Act normally.
H...Hi...
Ahahaha
Crap, I left my English dictionary!
I've got a spare copy
I'll lend it to you
Act normally.
Here you go!
Lucky for you, eh? You owe me some juice later!
Ogurii!!! Taka!!!!!!
Same as always.
Bye-bye! See you tomorrow!


Doesn't Asami seem... a little too cheerful lately?
Eh? Really?
She's the same as ever, isn't she?
See you!
.....



Yo.
Huh? W...What's up?
I thought you left earlier.
Yah, well..
Something's been bugging me.
You...
You've been acting weird lately.
Like you're forcing yourself to be cheerful it's not natural
Is something wrong?

I don't think so Nothing's changed
I'm the same as I always was.
Noth-ing's wrong
.....
I...
Hmm. Really...
I guess I am.
You're imagining things!
.....


Back then, there were tears in your eyes.
I thought that might have something to do with it, but...
Why...
Why is he saying this?
Was he waiting here to ask me that?
What if...
What if I said it DID have something to do with it?

I can't
I can't give up!
It wasn't a joke!

And I was crying.
Everything I said back then...
I meant it all.
Because I love you, Oguri.
.....
That's why.

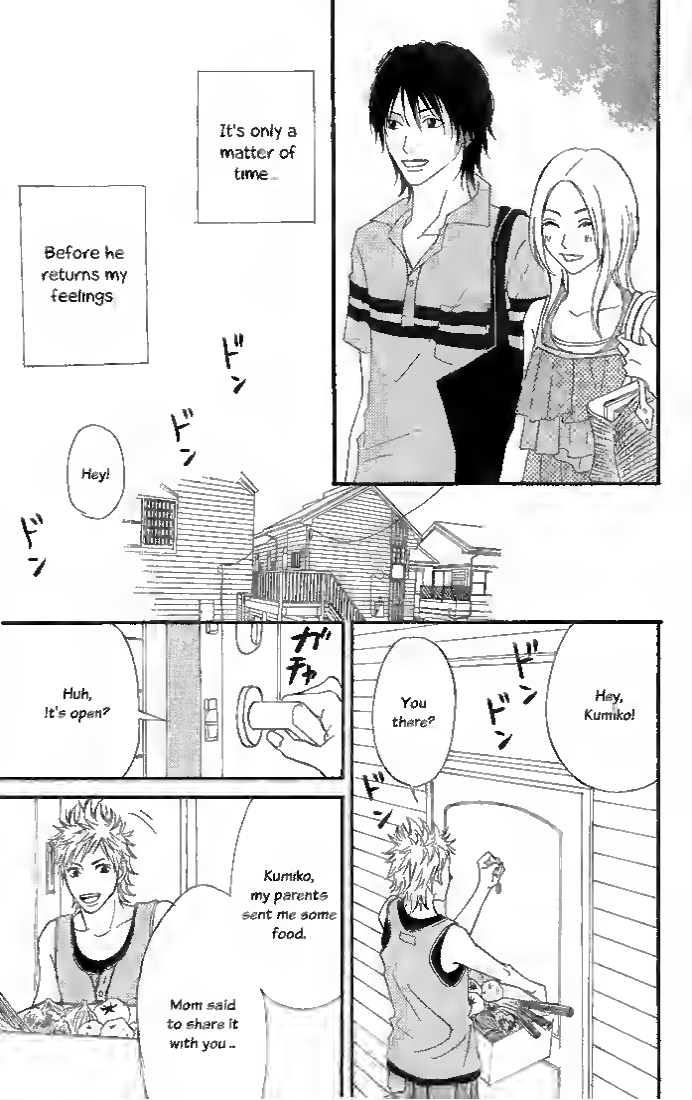
Eh?
Oguri!?
I was...
Hoping you'd say that.

I was hoping you'd say it wasn't a lie.

<<The End>>

ごみ山のまお嬢様と
眠り姫
SLEEPING BEAUTY AND THE MOUNTAIN OF GARBAGE

This spring, I started university and I started living alone
Every-thing's going great!
Namiki-kun!
I've even met a guy I like!
Hey there, Kikuchi
Okay!
Really? We should go together sometime!
Score!
Namiki-kun, remember that shop you were talking about?
The one in the maga-zine...
Ah yeah, that one...
Turns out it's really close to my place!


It's only a matter of time...
Before he returns my feelings
ドン
ドン
Hey!
ドン
Huh, It's open?
ガチャ
You there?
ドンドン
Hey, Kumiko!
ドン
Kumiko, my parents sent me some food.
Mom said to share it with you...

What the heck is this!?
ビクッ
Ah! Shigeru, you dummy!
You made my hand slip!

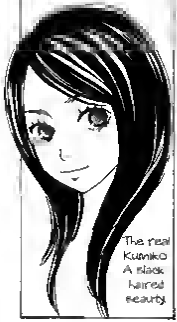
At this rate that guy you like will dump you!
Shut up, I'll be fine.
He's not coming to my room anyway.
This room is FILTHY! It's even worse than before!
This isn't the time to be casually putting on makeup!
When you take something out you don't put it back, that's why this place is so messy!
Yeah, yeah, yeah.
Shigeru was my classmate in high school.
That's not the problem!
If you've got the time for that, do some cleaning!
And it takes time to look pretty. I'm doing my best.

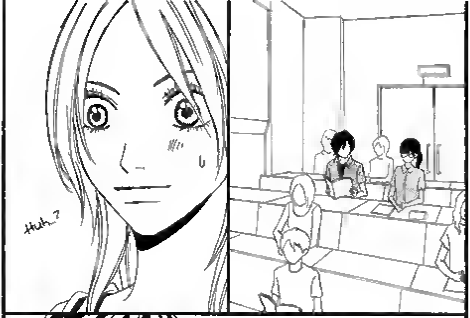
Now he lives near my apartment.
Whoa! Your plugs are covered in dust! This is a fire hazard!
My parents asked him to look after me, so...
He likes to come over and act like an in-law
Ah, I'm starting to feel sick.
I'm going home!
Ah!
I've got class!
ピッ

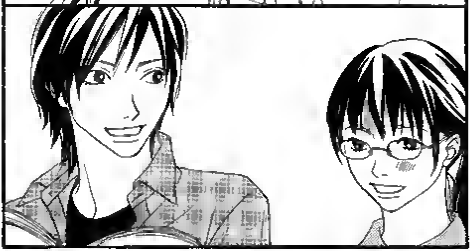
THE STORY BEHIND "THE CASTLE OF GARBAGE"

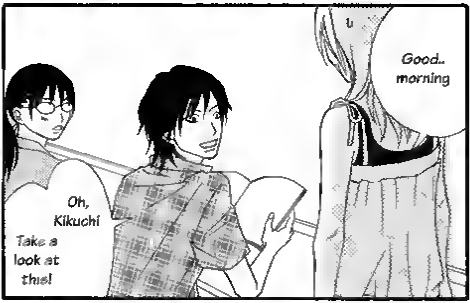
The main character in "Sleeping Beauty and the Castle of Garbage" Kuruka Kikuchi is named after my classmate in junior high school. When I ran into her way after graduation, it turned out she'd been reading my manga without knowing it was mine.

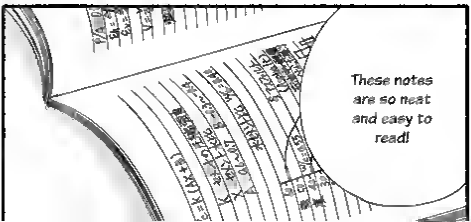
I was really touched...so touched I asked if I could use her name in a manga which made her happy. ...Sorry it had to be a story about such a dirty girl. Ah, but the real Kuruka Kikuchi isn't like that at all! It's just fiction!





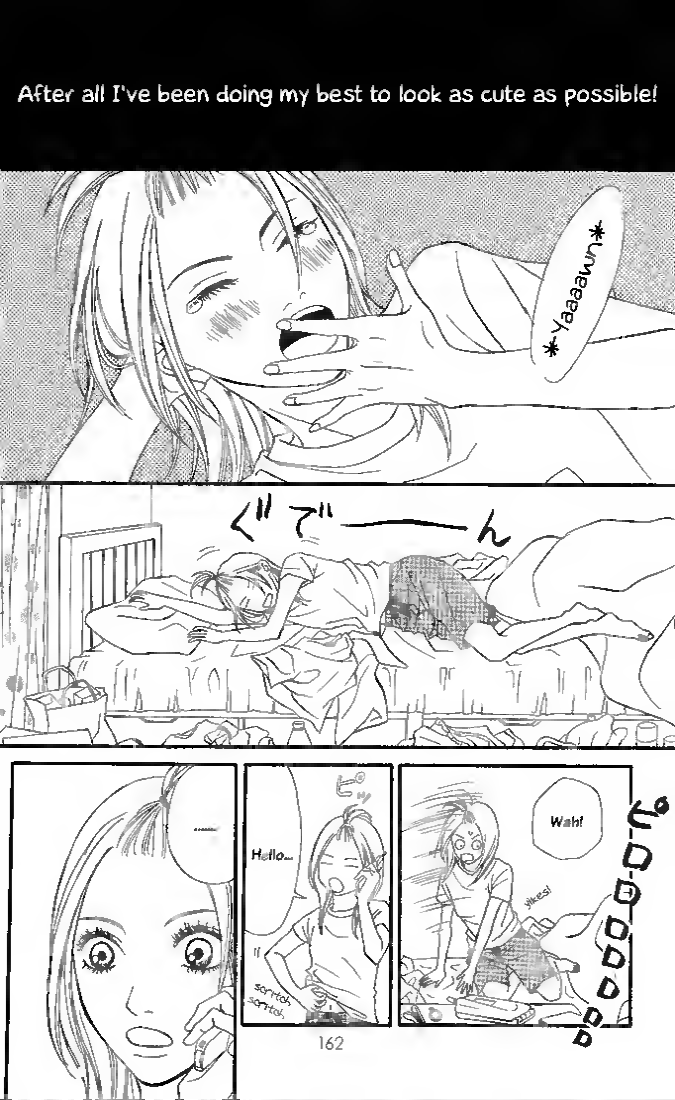


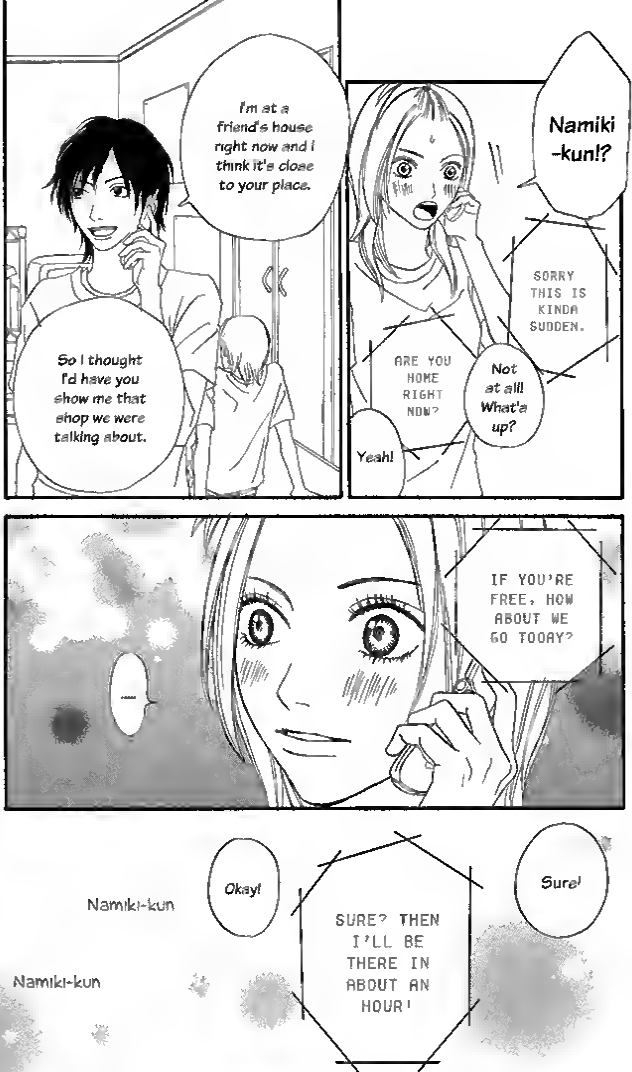


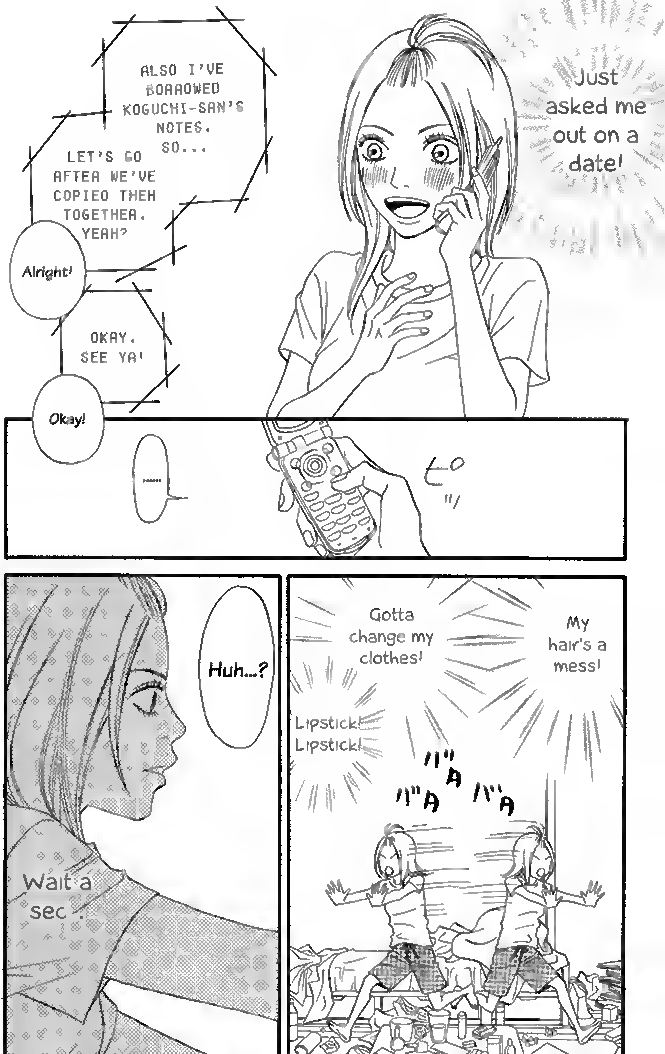


Koguchi-san, your handwriting's amazing!
No, no... you exaggerate.
Mine really sucks so I respect that
Respect is going a bit far...
.....
I don't have those notes.
Ah!
If it's notes you want...
Let me borrow them sometime, okay?

If you don't mind, I'd be happy to.
.....
Sure.
.....
Totally messy
I can't give him these...
Koguchi...
Then let me borrow them too!
Well, no problem
She can't be
I couldn't possibly lose to a plain Jane like her!
Okay

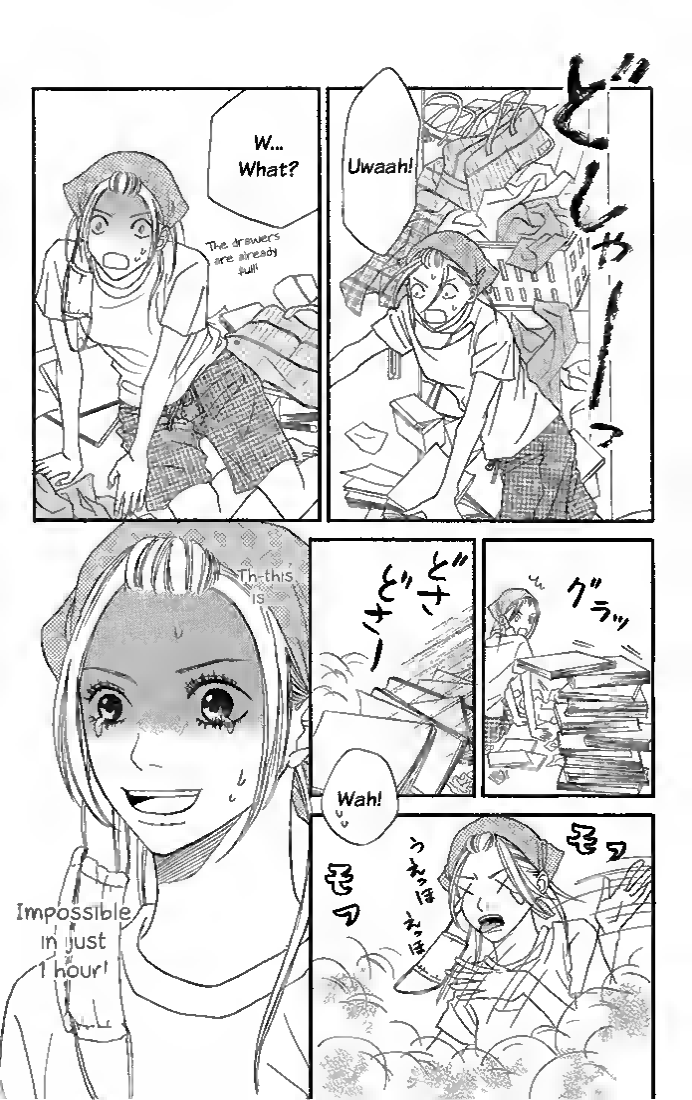

After all I've been doing my best to look as cute as possible!
Yaaawn
ぐでーーーん
.....
Hello...
scratch, scratch
Wah!
yikes!


I'm at a friend's house right now and I think it's close to your place.
So I thought I'd have you show me that shop we were talking about.
Namiki-kun!?
SORRY THIS IS KINDA SUDDEN.
ARE YOU HOME RIGHT NOW?
Not at all! What's up?
Yeah!
IF YOU'RE FREE, HOW ABOUT WE GO TODAY?
—
Namiki-kun
Okay!
SURE? THEN I'LL BE THERE IN ABOUT AN HOUR!
Sure!
Namiki-kun


ALSO I'VE BORROWED KOGUCHI-SAN'S NOTES. SO...
LET'S GO AFTER WE'VE COPIED THEM TOGETHER. YEAH?
Alright!
OKAY. SEE YA!
Okay!
.....
Just asked me out on a date!
Huh...?
Wait a sec.
Gotta change my clothes!
My hair's a mess!
Lipstick! Lipstick!

He's coming here!?
Gasp!
Meaning...
"I'll be there in about an hour."
"Let's go after we've copied the notes together."
There's no way! I could let Namiki-kun in here!
But I've only got an hour!
Should I start cleaning?
Should I turn him down?
No, no!
This is my chance to be alone with him!
...No other choice...

ばーーーん
キッゆっ
キッゆっ
Gotta do it!
ガラッ
Then I'll stuff the rest into the closets and drawers for now
I'll put everything I don't need in trash bags
And dump them on the veranda

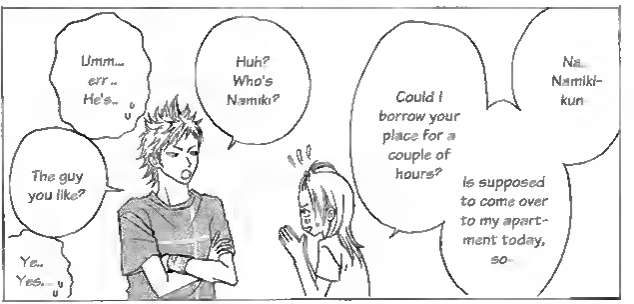

W... What?
The drawers are already full!
Uwaah!
どしゃーっ
グラッ
どさどさー
Wah!
うえっほえっほ
Th-this is
Impossible in just 1 hour!

In that case there's only one thing to do!
ピンポーン
Thanks for having me over.
You're late!
Come in!
Wow... This place is quite clean...
No, no, not really.
Actually, quite a mess.

Kikuchi, do you surf or skateboard?
Huh?
I didn't think you'd be the type to read shounen manga...
Eh?
That was too close...
Ahaha
My younger brother left these here.
He's nothing but trouble.
Oh, so you have a brother. (I don't know that.)

I tried to get rid of all the boyish stuff but

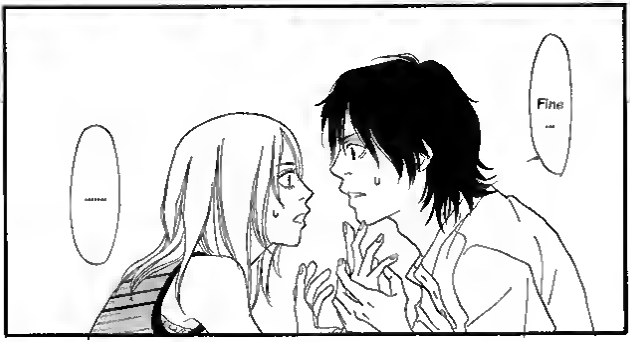
I didn't have anywhere to put the board

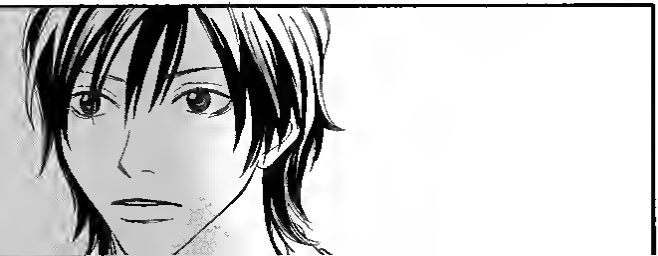

Umm... err.. He's..
Huh? Who's Namiki?
Na... Namiki-kun
Could I borrow your place for a couple of hours?
is supposed to come over to my apartment today, so
The guy you like?
Ye.. Yes..
Well, fine
I've got work now anyway
...

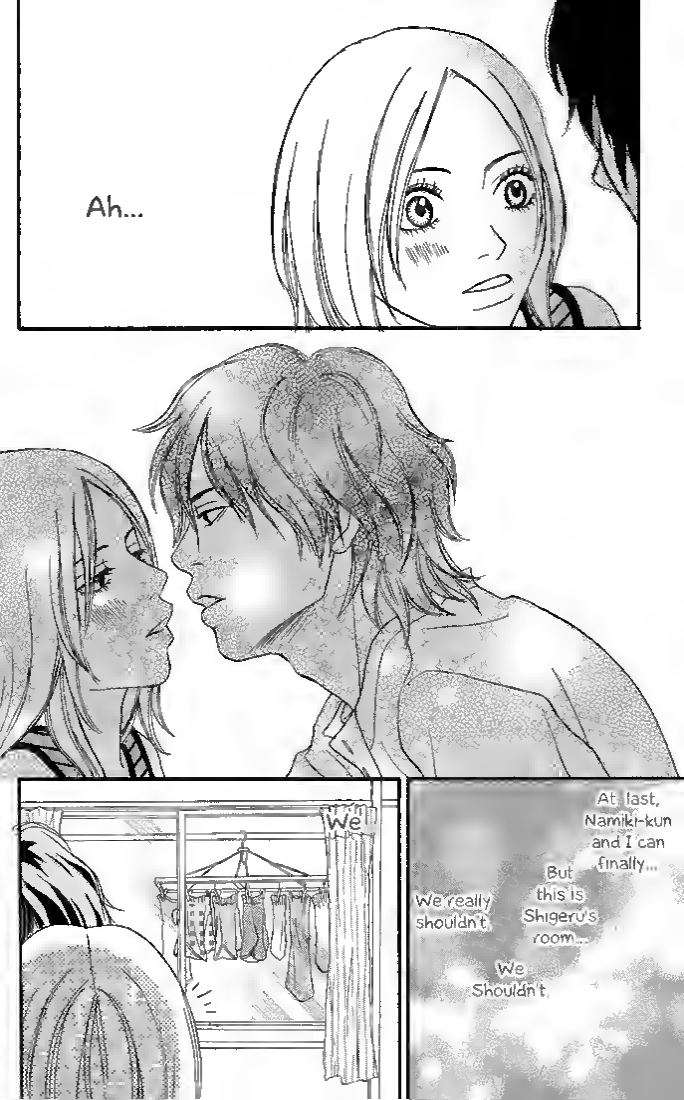
Okay
Let's get started on these notes...
Thank you, Shigeru-sama...
Hm?
What is it?
Ah!
N-nothing
Ah-ha-ha

I...I'll go make some tea
It's too quiet...
I'm starting to get nervous
ガ!!ノッ
!!?
Ow! That sounded painful!
You okay?
Ah. hahs.
Just fine, just fine...

Wah, I'm sorry!
And I've got such a hard head too...
It must really hurt. I'm sorry!
N-no... I'm fine, I'm...

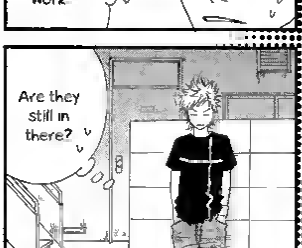

Fine...
.....




Ah...
We
At last, Namiki-kun and I can finally...
But this is Shigeru's room...
We really shouldn't
We Shouldn't

Un... Underwear!?
ばっ
Aaah!
ビクッ
Wh..
What?
ドキ、ドキ、ドキ
What's wrong?
Ah... Um...
Why don't we head to the store now?
I'm really hungry..
ニガッ

I'm already done with work.

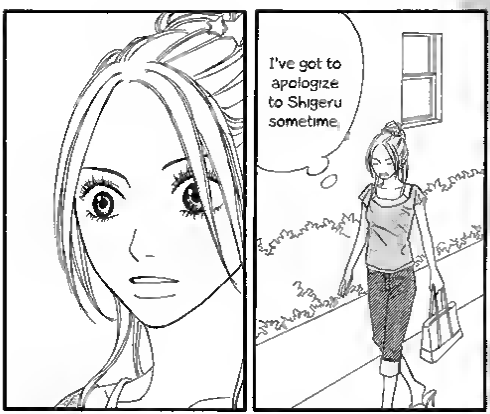

Are they still in there?

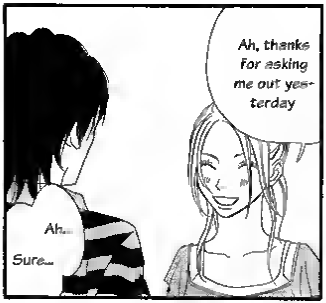
What was that store's specialty?
Wh- What should we get?

ガチャ

Right?
I guess we should get a move on
Ah... okay

Good evening!
This is kinda awkward
Shigeru
I think it was omurice or something
.....
G-good evening.
I see.
Who's he?
He, err, he's my next-door neighbour

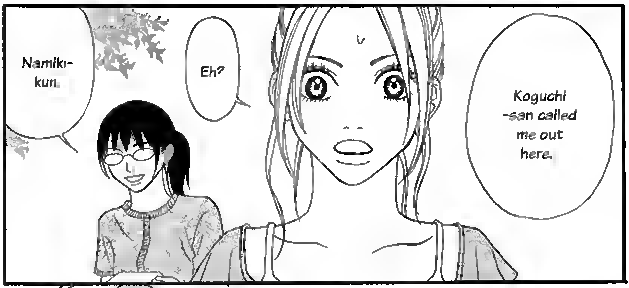

I've got to apologize to Shigeru sometime.

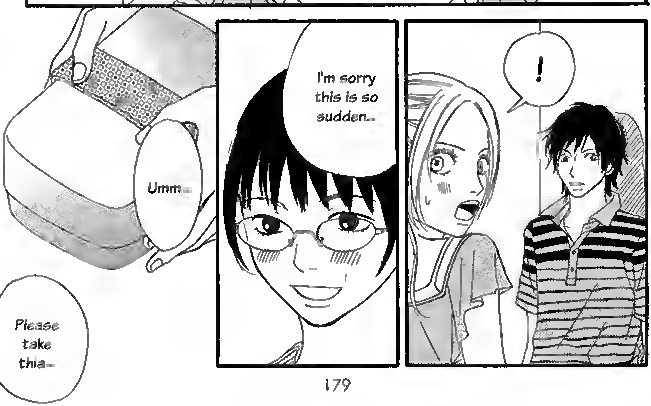

Ah, thanks for asking me out yesterday
Ah... Sure...

Uh-oh
Yesterday
Awkward
Weird
.....

Namiki-kun
Yo.

So?
What are you doing out here?
Actually...

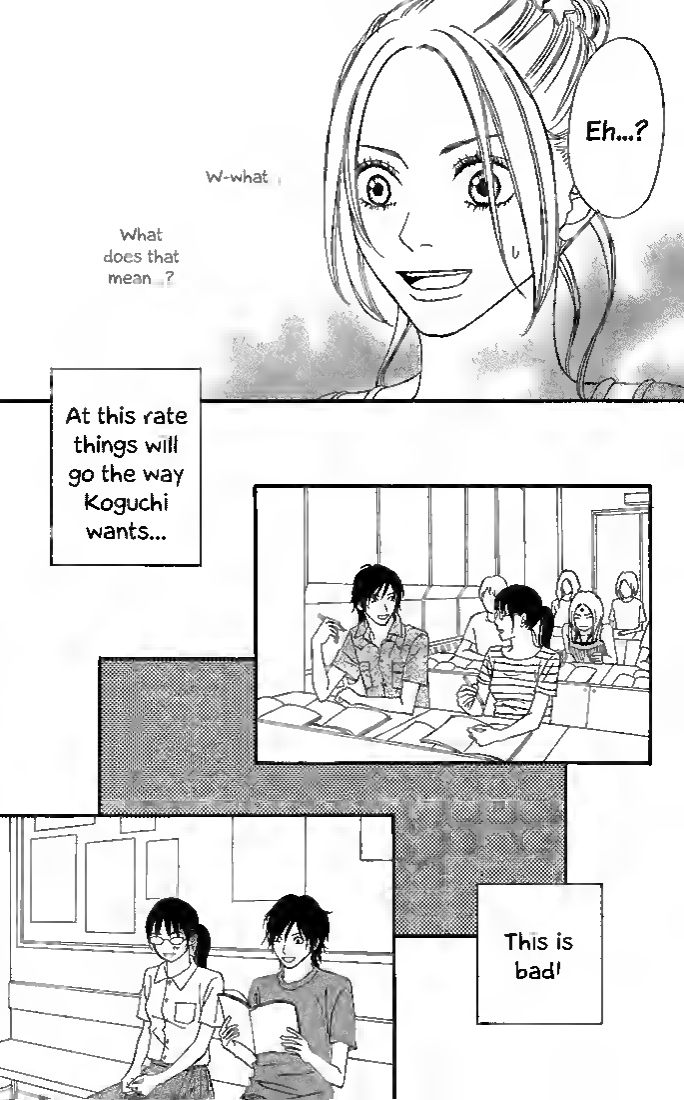

Namiki-kun.
Eh?
Koguchi-san called me out here.


Umm...
I'm sorry this is so sudden...
!
Please take this.

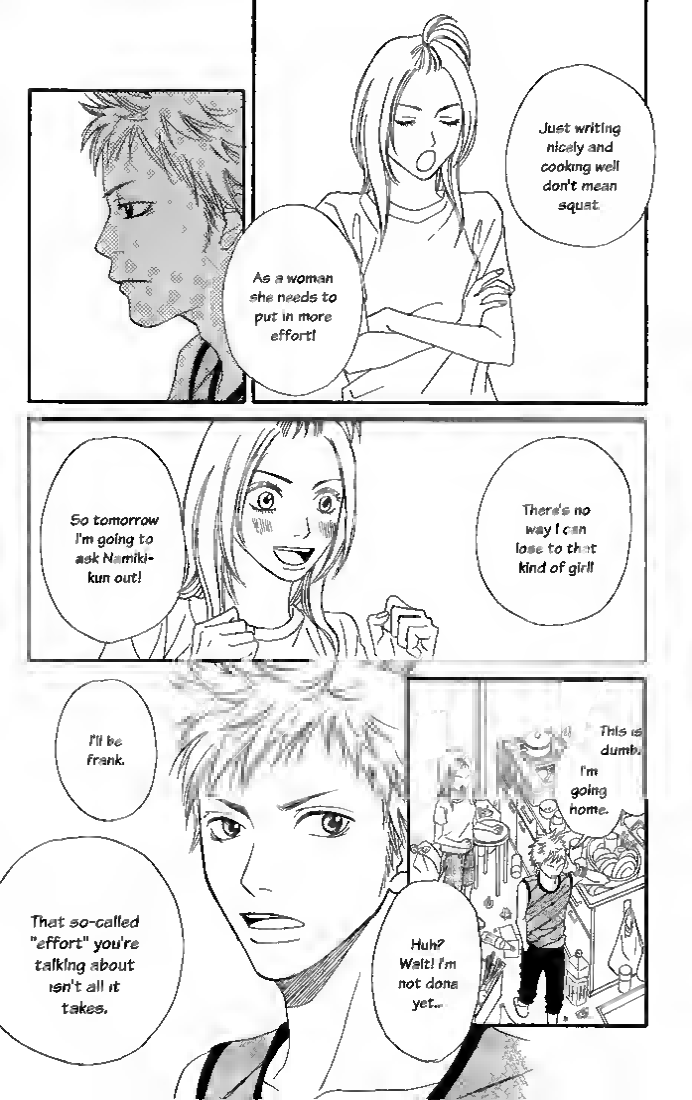
So I made one for you
If you like, you can have it for lunch today.
When you saw my lunch the other day..
You said you really wanted to try it, didn't you?
Err...I may have said that, yes.
Ah!
But if you don't like it, feel free to throw it away.
パカッ
Wow!
.....

That's so kind of you! I'm touched.
I'll definitely eat it! Thanks!
.....
Really? I'm so glad
Well, I've got a class now so...
Bye.
Wh... What was that just now?
.....

F-popping up with a boxed lunch out of the blue...
Bit of a shock, isn't it?
Eeeeh!?
He's already eating it!
Ahhhh! That was GOOD!
I can't believe she can cook so well!
Koguchi-san...
She's a pretty cool girl...


Eh...?
W-what
What does that mean...?
At this rate things will go the way Koguchi wants...
This is bad!

I've gotta do something quickly!
Hey! Shigeru, are you listening?
Don't you think that's weird?
She's a girl but she doesn't wear even a drop of makeup!
That Koguchi girl is so plain!
.....


Just writing nicely and cooking well don't mean squat.
As a woman she needs to put in more effort!
So tomorrow I'm going to ask Namiki-kun out!
There's no way I can lose to that kind of girl!
I'll be frank.
That so-called "effort" you're talking about isn't all it takes.
Huh? Wait! I'm not done yet...
This is dumb. I'm going home.

Then go ahead and ask him out.
If you're sure that someone like you...
Is good enough...
I'm not mad about anything
.....
What are you so mad about?
???
バタン
I wonder about that
"Someone like me"? Oh, you mean this room?
Come on, he doesn't know about this place!
It's okay

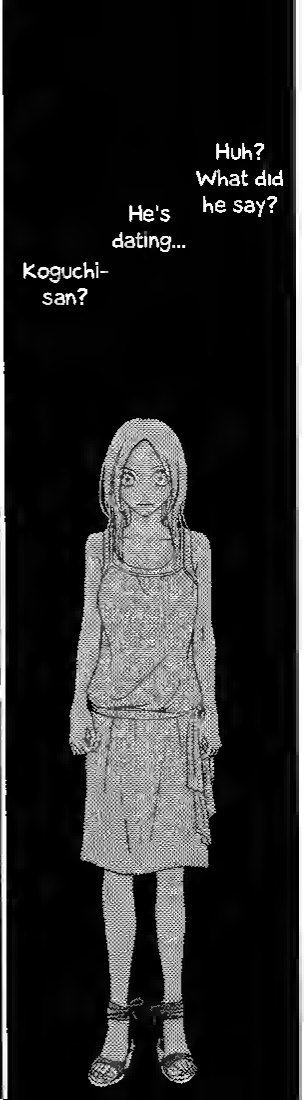
There's nothing to worry about
After all
"I wonder –"
"About that."
What's that supposed to mean?
So what did you want to talk about?
I've been doing my best as a woman.
I'm in love with you, Namiki-kun.
Well...
To tell the truth...

I want us...
To go out...
You know...
.....
Ah...
Sorry.
The thing is .
I'm already dating Koguchi-san.

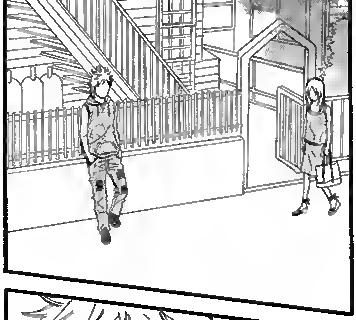
No way!
Why would you go out with someone like...

Uh...

Don't worry about it. I used to think that too.
It's true she's a bit plain and doesn't stand out much.

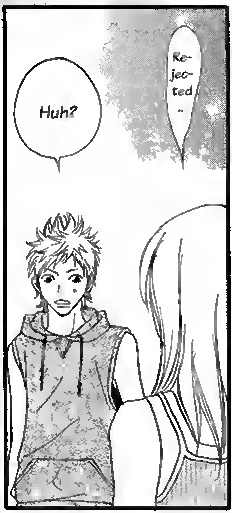

Huh? What did he say?
He's dating...
Koguchi-san?

But once we started talking I realized she's really got it together.
And she's got this home-maker feel....
She's pure and honest...
I guess that's what did it for me.
96
Why...?
Why Koguchi the one beside him?
Namiki-kun.
Well.. Gotta go.



Until just a while ago...

I was the one closest to him...

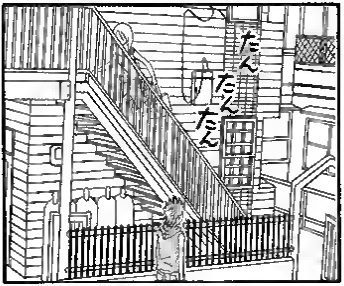


That's just it.
So why..?
Even after...
Going on a date with you, he still didn't feel like going out with you.
That's all it is.
And anyway..
What is "I tried so hard"... Supposed to mean?

Even if you try to hide behind your pretty exterior...
Once you open the door, all that's inside. .
Is that dirty, filthy room
That's you.
Nobody in their right mind...
Would want to go out with someone like that.
Kumiko, you know that well
That's why you borrowed my room, isn't it?

I think I said too much

たっ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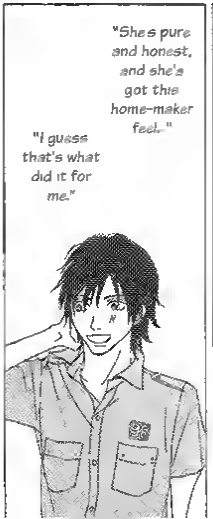
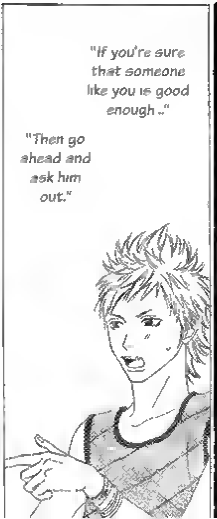
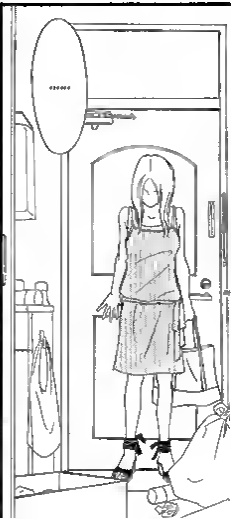

"I guess that's what did it for me."
"She's pure and honest, and she's got this home-maker feel."


"Then go ahead and ask him out."
"If you're sure that someone like you is good enough.."


.....

Hm?
Smells like something's burning
None of them know the real me!
Eeeh!?
"Whoa! Your plugs are covered in dust! This is a fire hazard!"
It... It can't be!?

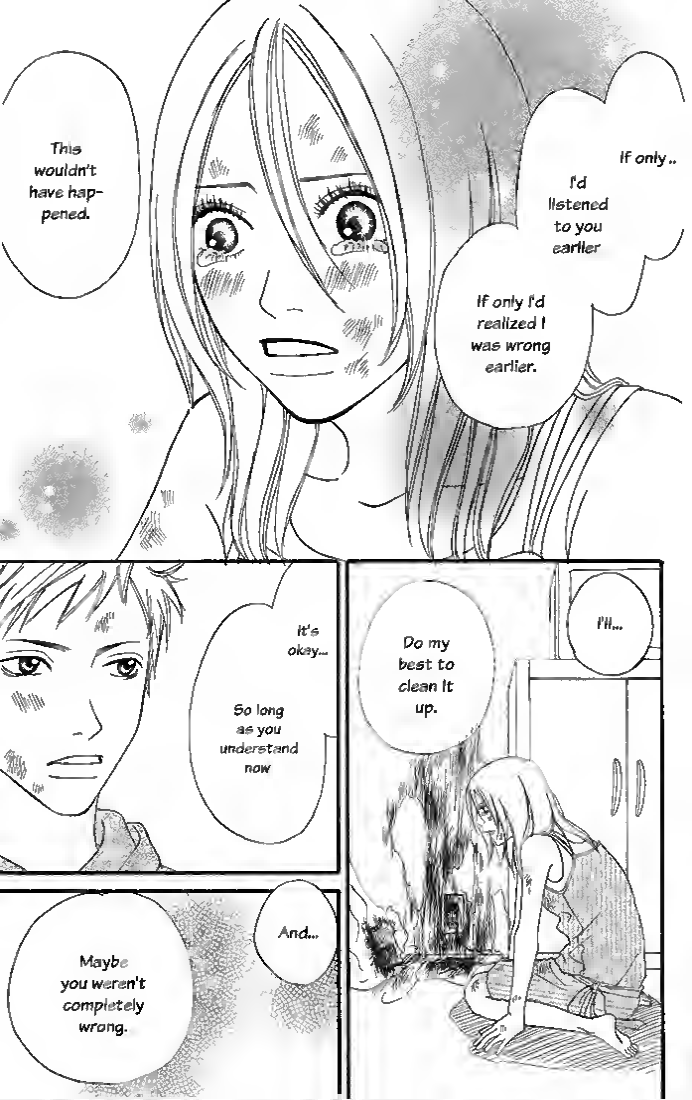
I've got to put it out!
I should apologize
While I can
I guess...

Eeeeh!?
What should I do? It won't go out!
ゴボゴボ
I should have cleaned this place like Shigeru told me to!
ドンドンドン
Kumiko!
If only I'd listened...
What's going to happen to me?

Kumiko!
ガラッ
シュー!!
ゴボゴボ

Kumi?
Phew! That was close!
This is
All my fault
.....

Everything Shigeru said is true
Namiki-kun...
Must have sensed the real me as well
That's why he chose Koguchi
This disgusting scene is the real me.
It's true
Pathetic.
I'm so pathetic...


This wouldn't have happened.
If only..
I'd listened to you earlier
If only I'd realized I was wrong earlier.
I'll...
Do my best to clean it up.
it's okay...
So long as you understand now
And...
Maybe you weren't completely wrong.

That like pathetic girls like you
There are weird guys like me out there..
We're cleaning up, right?
Anyway, come on.
Yeah.

<<The End>>